通称"それ町"

それでも町は廻っている

石黒正数

Ishiguro Masakazu

YOUNG KING COMICS

通称“それ町”

それでも町は廻っている

AND YET, THE TOWN REVOLVES

1

石黒正数
ISHIGURO MASAKAZU

CAFE SEASIDE MENU

Chapter 1	The Blessed Cafe (Before)	3
Chapter 2	The Blessed Cafe (After)	21
Chapter 3	Sexual Harassment Trial	37
Chapter 4	Eyes	53
Chapter 5	Romantic Runaway	71
Chapter 6	Tatsuno Toshiko Never Breaks	91
Chapter 7	Space Adventure Romance	107
Chapter 8	The Poster Girl is World Famous	125
Chapter 9	Equation of Love	143
Chapter 10	Kamaboko Bounce	159
Chapter 11	Cat Boy	175
Afterword		191
		1

CHAPTER 1
THE BLESSED CAFE (BEFORE)

THERE ARE NO GOOD OR BAD CUSTOMERS. THERE ARE ONLY GOOD AND BAD RESTAURANTS.
-MARTIN B. STONE

AND WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE, SIR?
HOME-WORK.
REALLY? LET ME COPY THE LITTLE BIT THAT'S FOR MATH.
EVERY-THING HERE IS FOR MATH.
NO BIG-GIE.
OKAY, SCOOT OVER.
BUMP
H-HEY...
S-SIT ON THE OTHER SIDE
I CAN'T COPY YOUR HOMEWORK IF IT'S UPSIDE-DOWN.
SLIP
.....

HUH?
NOTHING.
EX-HALE—
IN-HALE—
I AM BLES-SED.

MAN, I'M BORED.
PFT.

1-A
PLAQUE: OYA HIGH SCHOOL
I JUST START-ED.
ARASHI-YAMA-SAN, I HEAR YOU WORK AT A MAID CAFE.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED MAID CAFES.
YOU'RE SO LUCKY.
DO YOU MIND IF I DROP BY?
YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME! WE RARELY HAVE ANY CUSTOMERS, SO YOU'LL HAVE THE PLACE TO YOURSELF.
BUT THE PLACE IS RUN BY ONE OF MY NEIGHBORS, SO IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU'RE EXPECTING...

メイド
喫茶
シーサイド
MAID CAFE SEA-SIDE...
THIS IS THE PLACE...
SIGN: MAID CAFE SEASIDE
THIS IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
A LITTLE DIFFER-ENT?
SIGN: LUNCHTIME COFFEE ¥150
ランチタイム
コーヒー
150円
カラン
カラン
RATTLE
RATTLE
CREAK

FRIENDS OF YOURS?
YEP. HAVE A SEAT.
OH, WEL-COME!
SHOCK
...A MAID CAFE!
THIS IS NOT ...
THIS...
...? TATSUNO-SAN?
YOU WANT TO SPEAK FROM THIS AREA, NOT FROM THE THROAT OR THE ABDOMEN.
LIS-TEN.
トトン
THUMP
W-WAS THAT WHAT I SAID?
ABSO-LUTE-LY!
WHAT WAS THAT "OH, WELCOME!" ABOUT?! THIS ISN'T A SUSHI PLACE!

THAT'S BASIC.
WHA-AAT?
WELCOME BACK, MASTER♡
DON'T GIVE ME THAT! MEN ARE SUCKERS FOR THIS STUFF.
THE OUTFIT DOESN'T MAKE YOU A MAID.
YES! THAT'S HOW THEY LOOK ON TV!
OH!
BUT I'VE JOINED A CLUB, SO I WON'T HAVE TIME FOR A JOB.
I APPRECIATE THE OFFER..
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING HERE?!
SUMP
ドン
LEARN WHAT YOU CAN FROM HER, FOR MY SAKE!
WHAT—
I'M FINE.
INSTEAD, I'LL USE TODAY TO GIVE ARASHIYAMA-SAN SOME TRAINING.

PERFECT TIMING. HMM. HERE COMES ONE OF OUR REGULARS.
ARASHI-YAMA-SAN!
DO EXACTLY AS I SAID!
THE DRY-CLEANER, HUH?
荒井クリーニング
APRON: ARAI DRY-CLEANING
W-WEL-COME BACK, MASTER!
RATTLE
RATTLE
荒井クリーニング
IT'S OKAY!!
TATSUNO-SAN! SHE SCREWED UP!
...EXACTLY WHAT THEY WANT.
ズキュ
JOLT
IN FACT, HER INEX-PERIENCE HAPPENS TO BE...

WHOA! WHO ARE YOU CALLING DAISY?! WHO IS DAISY?!
SEE?
GRAB
I'M BACK, DAISY!
HUFF—
PUFF—
SHAKE
SHAKE
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!
DOESN'T ARASHI-YAMA-SAN DO A PRETTY GOOD JOB OF THAT ALREADY?
STEP #2 IN THE ACCELERATED MAID COURSE, THE CLUMSY MAID.
WELL, JUST WATCH AND LEARN.
A TRUE MAID IS ABLE TO CONTROL HER CLUMSINESS. I'LL POUND IT INTO HER!
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER

BOTTLE: PEPPER
フッ
FWOO
NOW, HARIBARA-SAN!
A—
GYAH—
SM
ACK
—CHOO!

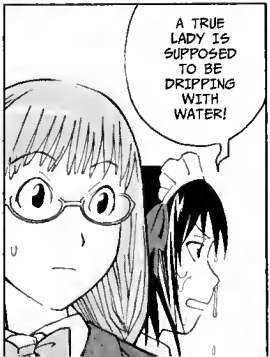
WAIT... ISN'T THIS A LITTLE EXCESSIVE?!
SHE PULLED OFF THAT COMBO ON HER OWN! SHE'S A NATURAL!!
I'LL CLEAN IT UP AT ONCE—!!
DASH
ダ
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!!
THAT WAS BEAUTIFUL.
NOW, QUICK, TAKE THIS BUCKET AND RUN!!
NOW TAKE A TUMBLE!
TRIP
ガッ
WHOA—

HOTORI-CHAN!
GUH?!
CLANG
SHOCK
ARE YOU OKAY, ARASHI-YAMA-SAN?!!
GOD IS WITH ARASHIYAMA-SAN... UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S THE GOD OF COMEDY, NOT THE GOD OF MAIDS.
NO...
LIFT
IT'S THE GOD OF RAGE.
SNAP

DO YOU HAVE A GRUDGE AGAINST ME OR SOME-THING—
IT'S NOT MY FAULT THAT YOU KEEP CHAINING ONE FAILURE INTO THE NEXT!
IS MY COFFEE COMING ...?
荒井クリーニング

LOOK, HOTORI IT'S REGULAR *2 PRACTICE YOUR GREETING.

THE STORE ACTUALLY SOUNDS BUSY FOR ONCE...
RATTLE
カラン
カラン
RATTLE


A TRUE LADY IS SUPPOSED TO BE DRIPPING WITH WATER!

.....
WHY ARE YOU SO WET?

SLAM
ガタン
TOILET
WH-WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE WE PRACTICING NOW?
THUD
ドン
GRAB
ガシ
ARASHI-YAMA-SAN.
IF MY EYES AREN'T DECEIVING ME... THE PERSON WHO JUST WALKED IN WAS SANADA-KUN, #9 IN OUR CLASS?
THAT'S RIGHT.
...WELL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT NUMBER HE IS.

THIS IS A LOVELY MAID CAFE..
WHY IS HE HERE? DOES HE COME OFTEN?
WHY... DOES HE KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?
WHAAAT?? WELL, SANADA'S DAD SELLS FISH NEARBY... HE COMES HERE PRETTY OFTEN.

MY NAME IS TATSUNO TOSHIKO.
PLEASE HIRE ME AS A MAID.
HUH?
チャ
CLICK
GUSH
ゴゴゴゴ
GUSH
CHIEF MAID.

AND SANADA-KUN'S BLESSED CAFE WAS ABOUT TO FALL APART.
YOU SAID YOU WOULD JOIN THE PING PONG CLUB WITH ME!
ブハー
CHOKE
TATSUNO-SAN?! WHAT ABOUT OUR CLUB?
GRAN'S PLACE WAS ONE STEP CLOSER TO BECOMING A MAID CAFE.

SINCE YOU OPENED THE DOOR, I'M NOT LETTING YOU ESCAPE.
PLEASE COME IN. IT'S ME, YOUR MAID.
WELCOME BACK, MASTER.
NOW, COME INSIDE...

WHY IS THE CAFE CALLED "SEASIDE" WHEN IT ISN'T BY THE OCEAN?
WHY DON'T YOU FIGURE IT OUT FOR YOURSELF? I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND CLUES HIDDEN IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED PLACES!
WHAT WAS THE REASON AGAIN ...?

ARE YOU GIRLS WORKING WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE SCHOOL?
HOOOW DID MR. MORI-AKI FIND OUT?
BEATS ME.
カツ TMP
カツ TMP
カツ TMP
カツ TMP
WE'LL HAVE TO SHAKE HIM!
RIGHT.
DASH
AH!

HUFF—
PUFF—
DAMN! I LOST SIGHT OF THEM.
I'M POSITIVE THAT THEY WENT THIS WAY...!
CHAPTER 2
THE BLESSED CAFE (AFTER)

WE'RE PLAYING MIND GAMES.
DON'T WORRY! EVERY TEMPLE HAS A STATUE OR TWO, SO NOBODY'S GOING TO PAY ANY ATTENTION TO US.
IS THIS REALLY GOING TO WORK?

SIGN: MAID CAFE SEASIDE
メイド
喫茶
シーサイド
TAH
TAH
TAH
AND NOW WE'RE LATE BECAUSE OF THAT— MAN—
RATTLE
RATTLE
SORRY, CHIEF MAID—
SLAM
WEL-COME.
I'M NOT GOING SENILE. I WAS TALKING TO THE CUSTOMER BEHIND YOU.
BOP
OW!
COME ON, GRAN. IT'S JUST US. ARE YOU GOING SENILE?
CUS-TOMER? THERE'S NOBODY —

I FIND IT INSULTING THAT YOU THOUGHT I WAS FOOLED BY THAT...
THERE IS!

IF A STUDENT WISHES TO WORK, HE/SHE MUST PROVIDE HIS/HER TEACHER WITH AN EXPLANATION OF THE JOB, AS WELL AS A REASONABLE EXPLANATION FOR WHY THE STUDENT SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WORK, SUCH AS ECONOMIC REASONS. ONCE THESE CONDITIONS ARE MET, THE STUDENT MUST WORK WITH A COUNSELOR AND WIN APPROVAL FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH.

PAGE 14, LINE 8 IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK: STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO WORK UNLESS THEY HAVE PERMISSION.

PLEASE STOP, MR. MORIAKI. ARASHIYAMA-SAN'S BRAIN IS ALREADY FULL.
UGH, YOU'RE KILLING MY HEAD, MAN!

AS YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER, I CANNOT IGNORE WHAT I'VE SEEN.
NOBODY FOLLOWS THOSE RULES.
I THINK.

HE'S SUCH A STICK-IN-THE-MUD! NO WONDER HE'S A MATH TEACHER.
WHAT BUGS ME IS HOW HE FOUND OUT THAT WE'RE WORKING HERE.
YES, IT'S ODD. WHO LET IT SLIP—?!
SANADA, TATSUNO-SAN'S MAKING HER DEBUT AT OUR CAFE TODAY.
!
IT WAS YOU!! YOU LET IT SLIP!! RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE TEACHER!!
YOU'RE AN IDIOT. A HOPELESS IDIOT.
IN THAT CASE, WE'LL HAVE TO GET PERMISSION TO WORK.
YES, I'M NOT HERE TO FORCE YOU TO QUIT.
YOU THINK THEY'LL GIVE US PERMISSION TO WORK AT A MAID CAFE...?

THIS IS THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND A MAID CAFE.
YOU PLAY THE ROLE OF AN OBEDIENT SERVANT SO THAT MEN WILL GRANT YOU FAVORS.
THAT IS MAID MAGIC!
THAT'S NOT VERY REASONABLE, IS IT?
MAID MAGIC?!
WE'LL HAVE TO GET PERMISSION! BY USING MAID MAGIC!!

CHIEF MAID! IS MY UNIFORM READY?
THIS IS A HEATED BATTLE BETWEEN YIN AND YANG, GOOD AND EVIL, DARK AND LIGHT!!
SILENCE!! WE ARE PITTING THE CHARMS OF A MAID AGAINST THE REASON OF A FUSSY TEACHER—
YEAH, IT'S ON THE HANGER.
YES...WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE.
MR. MORIAKI MAY THINK THAT WE'RE SIMPLY ENJOYING OURSELVES...
BUT THE PERSON I LIKE, SANADA-KUN, IS A REGULAR HERE. THIS IS MY BLESSED CAFE!!
ARASHIYAMA-SAN, WE MUST CHANGE INTO OUR BATTLE UNIFORMS!

...IT'S BEEN 22 MINUTES SINCE THEY WENT BACK THERE—
IT TAKES TIME FOR GIRLS TO GET DRESSED.
HUSTLE
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
STARTING TODAY, I WILL BE MAID #2.
I AM HERE TO SERVE YOU, MASTER♡
BLIP
トン
ドン
BAM
I'VE BEEN MAID #1 FOR A WHILE...

ARASHI YAMA SAN?!
I LOSE —

.....
?

...AND YOU EVEN LOOK BETTER IN A MAID OUTFIT!!

YOU HAVE BETTER GRADES...
BETTER LOOKS...
A BETTER FIGURE...

WHAT AM I?
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF, ARASHI-YAMA-SAN. I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY.

?
ARASHI-YAMA.
I SUPPOSE THAT YOU WOULD BE THE LAST PERSON TO NOTICE THIS...
BUT THERE IS ONE AREA WHERE TATSUNO CAN NEVER BE BETTER THAN YOU.

...IF I INTERPRET HIS WORDS IN THE BEST WAY POSSIBLE, MR. MORIAKI IS IN LOVE WITH...

HUH?

EVIL!! HE JUST FLAT-OUT SAID THAT I'M WORSE IN EVERY ASPECT BESIDES EYE-SIGHT...
AH—
EYE-SIGHT.
A-ARASHI-YAMA-SAN?!
ARASHI-YAMA-SAN!
ガク
FLOP...
THIS MAN IS STRONG!!
TA-TSUNO-SAN.
HE IS A MAID KILLER!
HE SHATTERED HER CONFIDENCE, THE KEY TO MAID MAGIC, BEFORE WE EVEN MADE A MOVE—
ARASHIYAMA HOTORI —KNOCKED OUT

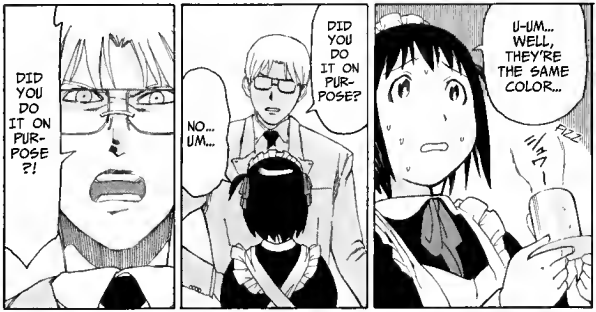
TA-TSUNO-SAN.
Y-YES?
COULD YOU BRING ME SOME TEA?
AT ONCE.
I WIN!
HE'S TRYING TO TEST ME... BUT IT'S GOING TO BACKFIRE ON HIM.
I AM A MASTER WHEN IT COMES TO TEA! I WILL SERVE HIM TEA SO PERFECT, IT WOULD MAKE ANY MAID PROUD!!
DON'T GOT IT.
HUH? "DON'T GOT IT"?
IS THAT THE NAME OF A TEA?
NAH, WE DON'T SERVE TEA HERE.

AFTER ALL, MAIDS COME FROM ENGLAND.
ENGLAND
GENTLEMEN
TEA!!
WH-WHAA-AAT?!
YOU DON'T SERVE TEA?! SHOULDN'T TEA AND CAKE BE ON THE MENU OF EVERY MAID CAFE?!
TEA, EH... SOUNDS LIKE A PAIN. PLUS, I HATE THE STUFF.
YOU MEAN LIKE LITTLE GREY? I DON'T GET THAT.
SHE MEANS EARL GREY...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
AL-THOUGH— IN THAT CASE...
WE CAN USE YOUR NUT-TINESS...
GRR— OUR TEACHER IS A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK. AND THE MAIDS HERE ARE NUTS.
DO ONE OF YOUR ORIGINAL KLUTZ TRICKS! USE THE SKILLS I TAUGHT YOU.
WHAAAT?

IF ARASHIYAMA-SAN'S CLUMSINESS HAPPENS TO CATCH HIS FANCY...
WE DON'T SERVE TEA, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH COFFEE, MR. MORIAKI.
CATCH HIS FANCY...
ENJOY.
Sugar
サーッ
RUSTLE
ドキ
BDMP
ドキ
BDMP
ドキ
BDMP

THEN WE'LL HAVE AN OPENING—

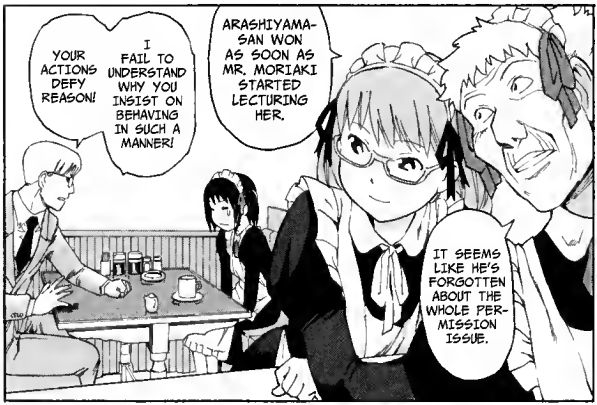
WOULD YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE PROCESS YOU USED TO PRODUCE WARM COLA?
COFFEE IS BREWED IN A COFFEE-MAKER.


DID YOU DO IT ON PURPOSE ?!
NO... UM...
DID YOU DO IT ON PUR-POSE?
U-UM... WELL, THEY'RE THE SAME COLOR...
FIZZ

THE CLUMSY GIRL ACT HAS NO EFFECT... IS HE INVINCIBLE ...?
NOW HE'S LECTUR-ING HER.
SOB... I DID IT ON PURPOSE... I'M SORRY
FIZZ

WH-WHY IS OUR TEACHER HERE?
SIGMA MAID CAFE SEASIDE

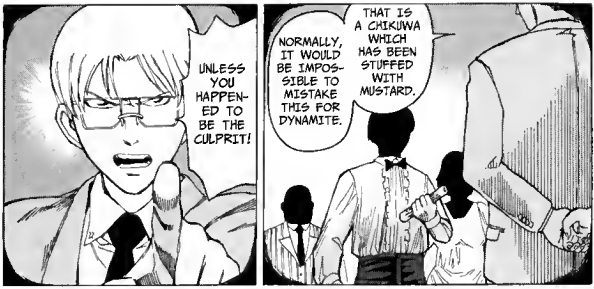
THIS IS NO LONGER A CAFE WHERE I CAN BE ALONE WITH (IGNORING THE OLD HAG'S EXISTENCE) ARASHIYAMA...
THIS ISN'T FUNNY...


YOUR ACTIONS DEFY REASON!
I FAIL TO UNDERSTAND WHY YOU INSIST ON BEHAVING IN SUCH A MANNER!
ARASHIYAMA-SAN WON AS SOON AS MR. MORIAKI STARTED LECTURING HER.
IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE WHOLE PERMISSION ISSUE.

CHAPTER 3
SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRIAL

T-SHIRT: HOLLYWOOD

BOOK: NARA BOMBER

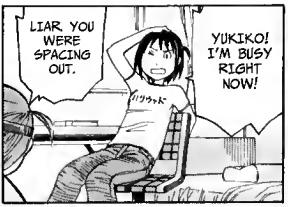

UNLESS YOU HAPPENED TO BE THE CULPRIT!
NORMALLY, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO MISTAKE THIS FOR DYNAMITE.
THAT IS A CHIKUWA WHICH HAS BEEN STUFFED WITH MUSTARD.

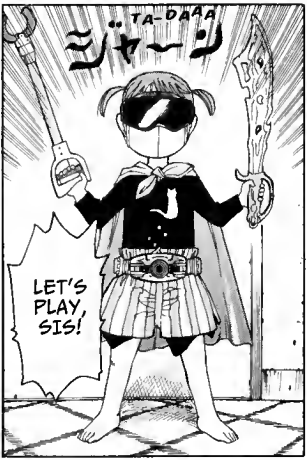
WHHHHY-YYYYY~
IT'S NO USE! NOW THE DETECTIVE LOOKS LIKE MR. MORIAKI IN MY MIND!!

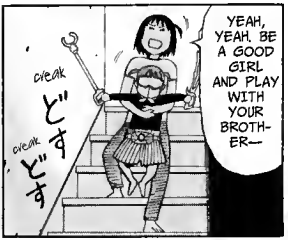
:SIGH:

PLOP
バサッ

!!
CLANG


LIAR YOU WERE SPACING OUT.
YUKIKO! I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW!


TA-DAAA
ジャーン
LET'S PLAY, SIS!


YEAH, YEAH. BE A GOOD GIRL AND PLAY WITH YOUR BROTH-ER—
creak
どす
creak
どす

COME ON. ISN'T THERE A GAME YOU CAN PLAY TOGETHER?
WARIO-WARE? PLAY THAT.
AHH-HHH—!
CLICK
プチッ

TAKERU! PLAY WITH YUKIKO!

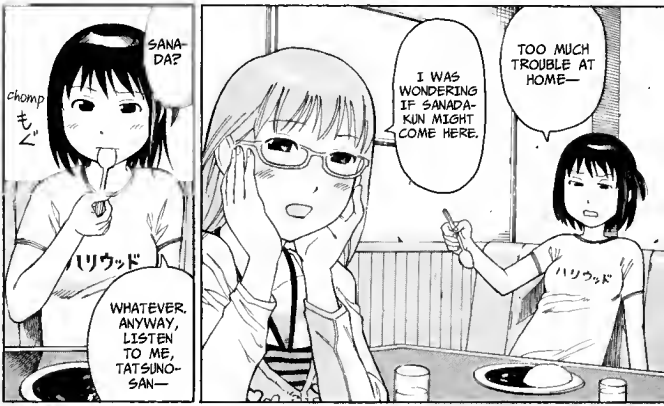
WHA-AAT—?

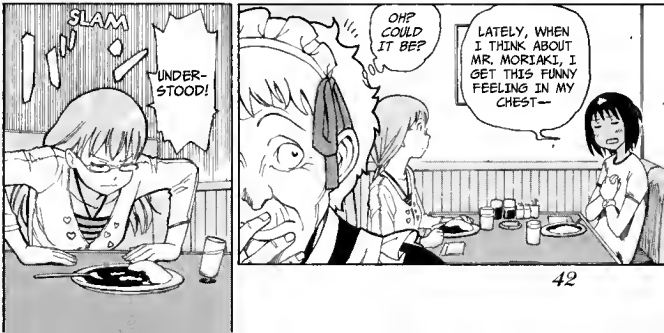
WHAT WAS ...
...THAT FOR ...?
I DIDN'T SAVE MY GAME YET!!
TUG
OW OW OW!

THAT HURT!
WHACK
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
WHAM
OW!

WAAAAAAAAAAH!
MOM! SIS IS BEING MEAN—
HOTORI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
AW, MAAAN... AW, MAAAAAN...

SIGN: MAID CAFE SEASIDE





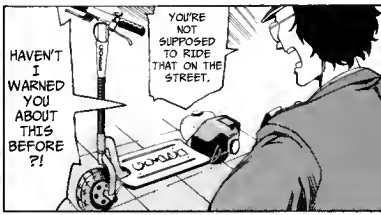
AND, YEAH, DON'T YOU THINK THAT CALCULUS IS JUST A SHAM?
CAL-CULA-TOR?
CAL-CULUS!
DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS... I HAD TROUBLE WITH FRACTIONS BACK IN GRADE SCHOOL.
ER... UM...
WHENEVER I THINK ABOUT OUR NEXT MATH TEST, MY STOMACH STARTS TO HURT.
TATSUNO-SAN WAS THE WRONG PERSON TO TALK TO... AND HOTORI DOESN'T EVEN REALIZE THE TOPIC'S CHANGED.
I'M NOT SURE HOW YOU MANAGED TO SURVIVE THIS LONG...
I'M STILL NOT SURE ABOUT THAT.
IS IT OKAY TO FLIP THE NUMBERS AROUND?
TSK. FINE. LET ME BORROW, YOU KNOW.
THAT VROOM VROOM THING.
WHAAAT? I'M HERE AS A CUSTOMER
THEN PAY UP AND LEAVE
HOTORI. IF YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO, COULD YOU RUN DOWN TO THE GROCERY STORE FOR ME?

丸子商店街
WHEE-EE—
VROOM
ブーン
SIGN: MARUKO SHOPPING DISTRICT
VROOOOM
ブーン
POTATOES, ONIONS, POTATOES, ONIONS.
AH...
HEY!
!
SMACK
WHOA!

.....
...GH—!!
HEY!! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!!
ドン
WHAM
.....
.....!!
HON-ESTLY, MAN...
HOP レロン
HOP レロン
INHALE INHALE EXHALE —!!
YOU CAN TELL IT'S SPRING WHEN FREAKS LIKE HIM ARE OUT AND ABOUT.
ドルルル
WHIRRRR
INHALE INHALE EXHALE— INHALE INHALE EXHALE— (LAMAZE TECHNIQUE)
SHOULDN'T YOU APOLOGIZE FOR STOPPING ME?
ハリウッド
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOULD WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!!

IF YOU DON'T LISTEN, I'LL REPORT THIS INCIDENT AS A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT!
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO RIDE THIS IN MY HOUSE? MY MOM WOULD YELL AT ME!!

A GIRL WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND HOW SERIOUS THE DAMAGE CAN BE!
I DIDN'T HIT YOU THAT HARD.
IT WAS YOUR FAULT FOR STANDING THERE.

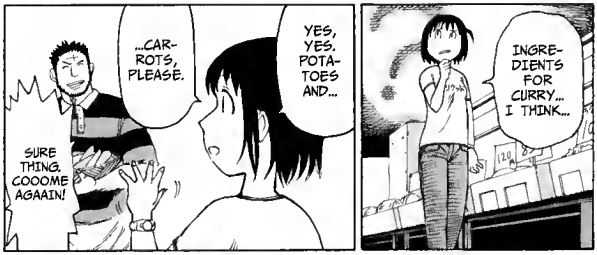

HAVEN'T I WARNED YOU ABOUT THIS BEFORE ?!
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO RIDE THAT ON THE STREET.

YOU HAVE NO LICENSE, NO PLATES, NO HEAD-LIGHTS, AND NO BLINKERS.
LISTEN TO ME.
THERE-FORE, YOU SHOULD NOT BE ON THE ROAD!

YOU'RE LIKE A HAMBURGER WITHOUT PATTY, CHEESE, OR PICKLE!

THIS IS WHY I CAN'T STAND MINORS...
WH-WHY YOU... YOUR MOM TRUMPS THE LAW...?

...HMPH. FINE, I'LL STOP THEN.
CAN'T YOU STILL EAT THE BUN?
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!!
OH, YOU'RE ACTUALLY LISTENING TO ME TODAY?
WELL, I ALREADY MADE IT TO THE STORE ANYWAY.
OH, YOU ON AN ERRAND FOR THE OLD HAG?
130
100円
ハリウッド
I GOT SOME GOOD CARROTS IN TODAY. FRESH FROM KOUCHI. STILL GOT DIRT ON THEM.
HELP YOURSELF, HELP YOURSELF—
COULD YOU BE QUIET! I'M GOING TO FORGET WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO BUY.
I'M GOING TO TELL HER WHAT YOU JUST SAID.
98円


YES, YES. POTATOES AND...
...CARROTS, PLEASE.
SURE THING. COOOME AGAAIN!
INGREDIENTS FOR CURRY... I THINK...

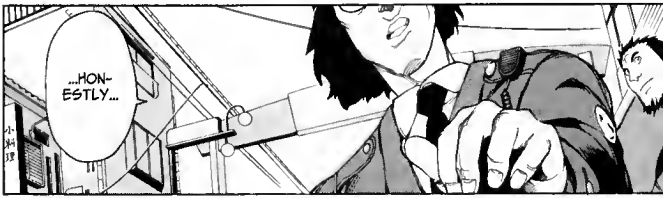
AH! THANK YOU.
IT EXPIRES IN THREE DAYS, BUT YOU CAN PROBABLY FINISH IT BY THEN.
THUD
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, HOTORI-CHAN. TAKE THIS.

CARTON: MILK

WHA—
YES, THAT'S TRUE.
MORE MILK MIGHT HELP YOU GET A LITTLE BIGGER.

HEY, COP! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO WARN HIM, NOT LAUGH WITH HIM!
AH! YES, MA'AM!
DEPENDING ON YOUR ANSWER, I MIGHT CHARGE YOU WITH SEXUAL HARASSMENT!
HELP ME GET BIGGER WHERE?!
AND BLINKERS AND LICENSE! DON'T TRY TO PLAY DOWN THE ISSUE.
HEY, NO RIDING. PUSH IT BACK.
GRUMP
PLEASE
STEP
HEAD-LIGHTS AND PLATES, RIGHT? I'LL REMEMBER THAT...

LET'S GO, TETSUO!!
ZOOM
THERE IS NO TETSUO HERE! AND GET OFF THAT THING!!


...HON-ESTLY...

MORE LIKE A FIRE, GIVEN HOW NOISY SHE IS.
AND THEN, THE LIGHTS OF THIS TOWN WILL GO OUT.
280
100

ONE DAY, SHE'LL GET HERSELF MARRIED AND LEAVE THIS TOWN, HUH?

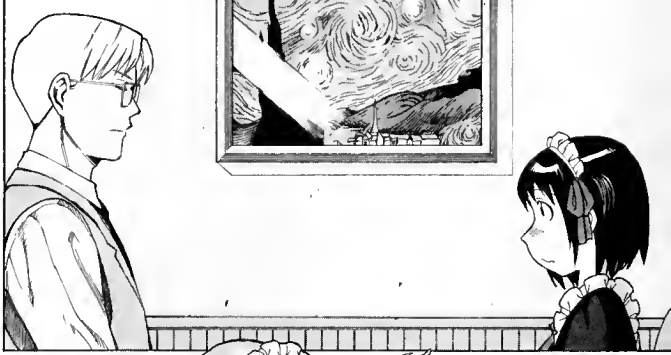
?
OH, SANADA'S ACTUALLY HERE.
—CK.
I'M BAA—
A COP WAS TALKING ABOUT ARRESTING ME OR SOME-THING.
WHAT DID YOU DO?
THAT TOOK YOU A LONG TIME.
AW, SHE'S BACK ALREADY.
ARE YOU TRYING TO GET BIG-GER?
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
JUST GIVE ME A CUP. I'M GOING TO DRINK SOME MILK.
WELL, I AP-PRECIATE IT. WANT SOME COFFEE?
ベビ
RIP

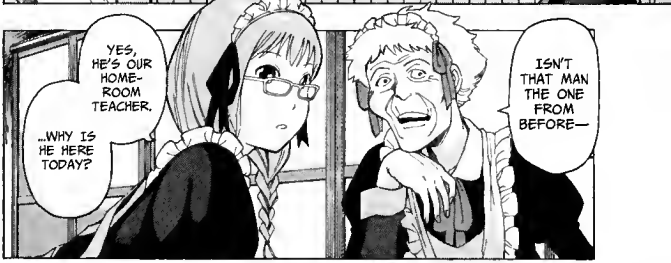
THE DEFENDANT SHOULD KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT!
Y-YOU'RE WRO... OBJECTION! I WAS TALKING ABOUT YOUR HEIGHT!
YEAH! SANADA-KUN ISN'T LIKE THAT!
ガタッ
CLATTER

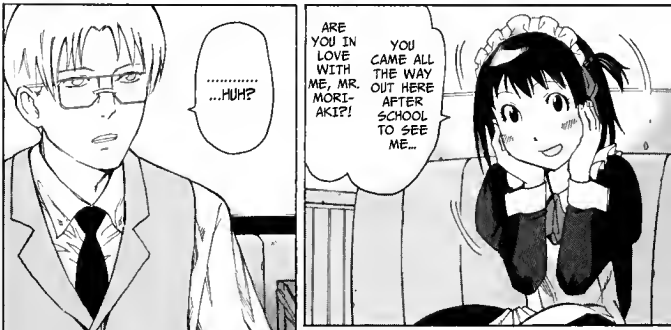
I TOLD HER TO BUY POTATOES AND ONIONS... SHE SHOULD BE WORRYING ABOUT HER BRAINS, NOT HER BOOBS...
OVERRULED!
I WILL BE SANADA-KUN'S ATTORNEY! OBJECTION!

CHAPTER 3/END

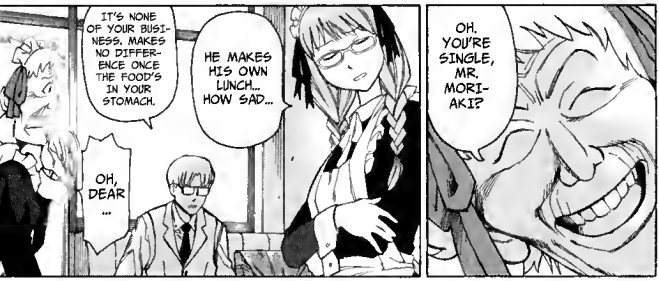
CHAPTER 4
EYES



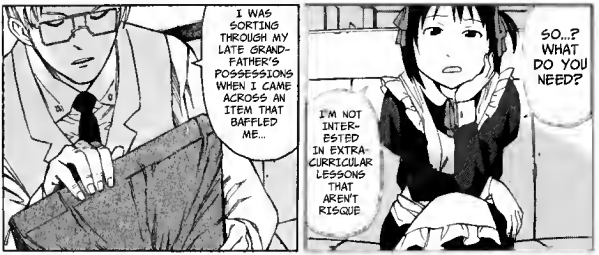

YES, HE'S OUR HOME-ROOM TEACHER.
...WHY IS HE HERE TODAY?
ISN'T THAT MAN THE ONE FROM BEFORE—


ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH ME, MR. MORI-AKI?!
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE AFTER SCHOOL TO SEE ME...
.....
...HUH?

I HAVE NO CHANCE! DEAD ON ARRIVAL!
THAT'S ALL HE HAD TO SAY!
"HUH?"
TOILET
ドバシャー
FLUSH
GSH
ゴボゴボ
GSH


IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS. MAKES NO DIFFERENCE ONCE THE FOOD'S IN YOUR STOMACH.
HE MAKES HIS OWN LUNCH... HOW SAD...
OH, DEAR ...
OH. YOU'RE SINGLE, MR. MORIAKI?

HEY HEY! SHOO SHOO SHOO!
WHAT? THE CUSTOMER DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU!!
CLIC
カチャ
RATTLE
カラカラ
RATTLE

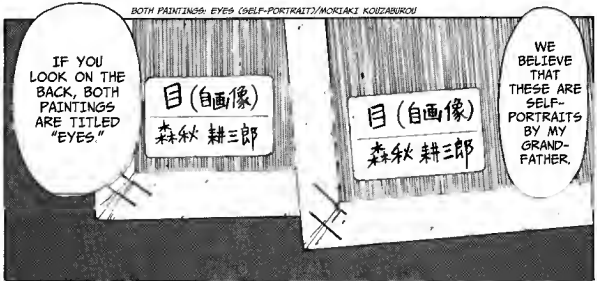

I WAS SORTING THROUGH MY LATE GRAND-FATHER'S POSSESSIONS WHEN I CAME ACROSS AN ITEM THAT BAFFLED ME...
I'M NOT INTER-ESTED IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR LESSONS THAT AREN'T RISQUE
SO...? WHAT DO YOU NEED?

RUSTLE

HUH?!
OOH
THAT'S A WEIRD PAINT-ING.
IT LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY PORTRAIT TO ME...

HUH?
I MEAN, JUST LOOK. IT'S COMPLETELY SQUARE. AREN'T PAINTINGS USUALLY RECTANGULAR?
I SEE.
EXCELLENT, ARASHIYAMA! I WANTED TO SHOW YOU THIS PAINTING BECAUSE YOU TEND TO NOTICE THE ODDEST THINGS.
MY GRANDFATHER WAS THE YOUNGEST OF THREE BROTHERS.
HE WAS AN UNSUCCESSFUL ARTIST.
HE WAS ALSO A GAMBLER. HE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH PROPERTY, BUT AFTER HIS DEATH, HIS PAINTINGS WERE DIVIDED AMONG HIS TWO BROTHERS AND OUR FAMILY.
AND MY PROBLEM IS THIS OTHER PAINTING THAT WAS ALSO DONE ON A SQUARE CANVAS—

!!
WHOA! THAT'S CREEPY!


BOTH PAINTINGS: EYES (SELF-PORTRAIT)/MORIAKI KOUZABUROU
IF YOU LOOK ON THE BACK, BOTH PAINTINGS ARE TITLED "EYES."
目（自画像）
森秋 耕三郎
目（自画像）
森秋 耕三郎
WE BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE SELF-PORTRAITS BY MY GRAND-FATHER.

I CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW THE MIND OF ANOTHER PERSON!! HAHA!
HA!
NEVER!!
AS YOU KNOW, I AM A MATH TEACHER.
CAN I GUESS WHAT THE ARTIST WAS THINKING WHEN HE PAINTED THIS?
WHOA, HE SNAPPED.
BAM
I LOVE THEM!
I BELIEVE YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU'RE A FAN OF MYSTERY NOVELS?
HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ARRIVE AT AN ANSWER THROUGH METICULOUS DEDUCTION.
I'LL COME BACK TOMORROW.
PLEASE PROVIDE ME WITH AN ACCEPTABLE EXPLANATION FOR THIS PAINTING.
EVER SINCE I FOUND THIS PAINTING, I'VE HAD THIS FUNNY FEELING IN MY CHEST!

HMM MM~
RIGHT, HOTORI?
ENOUGH ABOUT MR MORIAKI... DON'T INTERRUPT MY TRAIN OF THOUGHT.
THAT TEACHER HAS A DIFFICULT PERSONALITY.
IT'S PROBABLY WHY HE HASN'T FOUND A WIFE YET. HE'S RIPE FOR THE PICKING.

WHAAT?
NO WAY!
I ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER.
SAME HERE.

MR. MORIAKI FELT THAT THIS PAINTING WAS ODD...
WHICH MEANS YOU CAN ASSUME THAT THE OTHER PAINTINGS WEREN'T ODD.
THEY WERE PROBABLY LANDSCAPES AND OTHER TYPICAL PAINTINGS...
THIS WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT WAS STRANGE.
...WELL, I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE.
IN THAT CASE, THIS MUST ALSO BE A PAINTING OF SOMETHING TYPICAL.
THEREFORE! THE TEACHER'S GRANDFATHER WAS AN ALIEN!!
FLASH
HUH?
OH— THAT'S AMAZING BIG NEWS
CHIEF MAID! THIS GIRL IS PISSING ME OFF!!
I CAN'T STAND THAT LOOK ON HER FACE!!

CLATTER
ガラッ
YES, YES. HE'S AN ALIEN, RIGHT?
I SEE!!
—HMM?
IF I EXPAND ON THE IDEA THAT THIS WAS A PAINTING OF SOMETHING TYPICAL...
A-ARE YOU OKAY? DID YOU THINK TOO HARD AND BLOW YOUR MIND?!
UWA HA HA HA HA HA!!
A DETECTIVE ALWAYS LAUGHS AFTER SOLVING A MYSTERY.
I NEED TO PREPARE FOR TOMORROW, SO I'M HEADING HOME.
AH! WAIT!!

進備中
ザアア
POUUUR
THE NEXT DAY
SIGN: CLOSED
ARE YOU READY, MR. MORIAKI?
I HAVE SIX CARDS HERE.
HOW WOULD YOU DIVIDE THEM AMONG THREE PEOPLE?
YOU GIVE EACH PERSON TWO CARDS.
NOW, HOW WOULD YOU DIVIDE THIS CASTELLA AMONG THREE PEOPLE?
CORRECT.
ARE YOU TRYING TO INSULT ME?
ゴロピカ
THUNDER

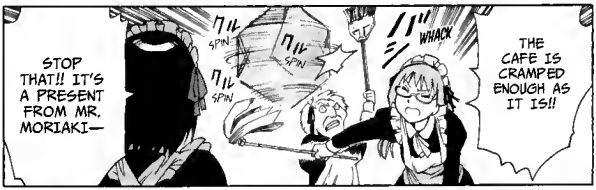
SHOOT!
CORRECT.
...AH?! I DON'T GET A SLICE.
TAKE A KNIFE AND CUT IT INTO THREE SLICES.
NO MORE HINTS.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY NOW.
WHAT IS YOUR POINT?
I CAN NEVER STAND ALL THE BUILD-UP TO THE RESOLUTION IN A MYSTERY NOVEL!
HMM?!
YOU CAN'T SOLVE IT?
HMPH.
GRR...

IF YOU STICK TO THE FORMULA, YOU CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
WHY IS IT SO HARD FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND?
???
UWA HA HA HA HA! THIS FEELS GOOD.
SO THIS IS HOW MR. MORIAKI FEELS WHEN HE'S LOOKING DOWN ON ME!
STOMP
ゴリ
???
IF YOU DON'T TELL HIM THE ANSWER, HE'S GOING TO SNAP.
AH!
ARASHIYAMA UNDERSTANDS SOMETHING THAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND... IMPOSSIBLE... GUH...
WHOOSH
HERE IS MY SOLUTION! LOOK!
WHOA—!
MUM-BLE MUM-BLE...
HE-HE-H
clack
カラカラ
clack
clack
clack

I ADDED IN THE MISSING PIECES.
USING CARD-BOARD.
THIS IS THE TRUE SHAPE OF HIS WORK!!
IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A DIE!!
SINCE THE PAINTINGS WERE DIVIDED BETWEEN THREE FAMI-LIES...
THE TITLE "EYES" WAS A PUN ON HIS OWN EYES AND THE EYES OF A DIE.
SINCE YOUR GRAND-FATHER WAS A GAMBLER, THIS WOULD CERTAINLY BE AN ACCURATE SELF-PORTRAIT.
...THE WORK LOST ITS ORIGINAL MEANING, AND YOU WERE LEFT WITH TWO PUZZLING PAINTINGS.

I CONTACTED MY RELATIVES AND THEY WERE ABLE TO FIND THE OTHER PAINTINGS, JUST AS YOU SAID. WE DECIDED TO FOLLOW MY GRANDFATHER'S WISHES IN RESTORING THE WORK TO ITS ORIGINAL FORM, AND—

NO WAY!
...PRESENT IT TO YOU IN RETURN FOR SOLVING THE MYSTERY.


STOP THAT!! IT'S A PRESENT FROM MR. MORIAKI—
SPIN
SPIN
SPIN
WHACK
THE CAFE IS CRAMPED ENOUGH AS IT IS!!

WELL... THAT WOULD BE KINDA...
WHY DON'T YOU KEEP IT AT YOUR OWN HOUSE, THEN?

A FRIGHTENING MODERN DISORDER

DETECTIVE MENTALITY

FOUND IN PEOPLE WHO HAVE GONE THROUGH SO MANY MYSTERY NOVELS THAT THEY ARE NO LONGER SATISFIED BY MERELY READING ABOUT CASES. THEY CONSTANTLY SEEK MYSTERY, AS IF THEY WERE DETECTIVES THEMSELVES.

• FIRST PHASE (BIRTH OF THE IMAGINARY ASSISTANT)

ARBITRARILY ASSIGNS AN ACQUAINTANCE OR FRIEND AS THE ASSISTANT. USAGE OF THE PHRASE, "ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR (INSERT NAME)," IS A PROMINENT SYMPTOM.

• SECOND PHASE (SEEKING MYSTERY)

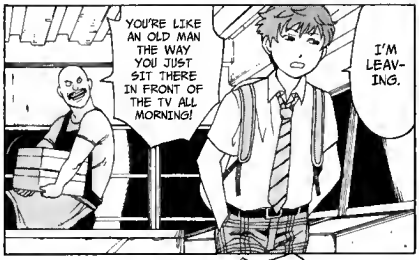
LOOKS FOR MYSTERY IN THE MOST BANAL ACTIVITIES OF ORDINARY LIFE. RANDOMLY NAMES A COMMONPLACE EVENT "THE (INSERT NAME) INCIDENT." BEGINS TO BOSS THE "ASSISTANT" AROUND. IF THEY OVERREACT TO THE PHRASE "BEHIND CLOSED DOORS" BY YELLING AT THE TV ABOUT HOW THEY TECHNICALLY WEREN'T BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, THEY HAVE CLEARLY REACHED THE SECOND PHASE.

• TERMINAL PHASE (PUZZLING REQUESTS)

THEY BECOME DESPERATE FOR ANY CHANCE TO WORK ON A CASE. THEY MAY EVEN BEG FRIENDS TO PURPOSELY GO MISSING AND LEAVE CRYPTIC LETTERS BEHIND. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WHILE RUNNING AROUND LOOKING FOR CASES, THEY GO MISSING THEMSELVES.

CHAPTER 5
ROMANTIC RUNAWAY

SIGN: SANADA'S FRESH FISH
鮮魚 眞田
TEL 37XX-54XX
TODAY'S LUCKY BLOOD TYPE IS A!
A
MAKE A LONG TRIP TO SHORTEN THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND ONE YOU ADORE!
LUCKY ITEM SASH
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE A LONG TRIP ON A WEEK-DAY?
KEH.
MAKE A LONG TRIP TO SHORTEN THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE ONE YOU ADORE!


YOU'RE LIKE AN OLD MAN THE WAY YOU JUST SIT THERE IN FRONT OF THE TV ALL MORNING!
I'M LEAVING.

SQUISH
ギュッ

DON'T CALL YOUR FATHER A BALDY.
AND YOU SHOULD FEEL PRIVILEGED TO HAVE CRAB FOR BREAKFAST.
PLONK
トカ

AND WHO THE HELL HAS CRAB FOR BREAKFAST?
...NOBODY ASKED FOR YOUR OPINION, BALDY.

.....
...I CALL IT THE CRAB-WICH!!

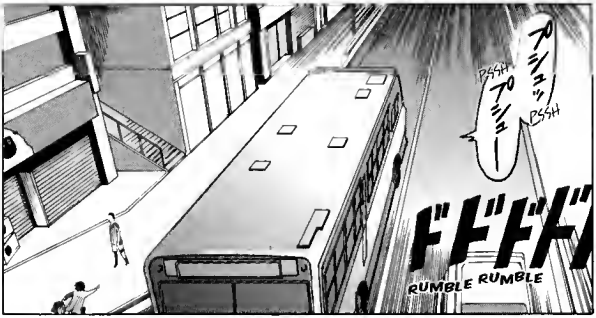
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT BREAD AND CRAB?

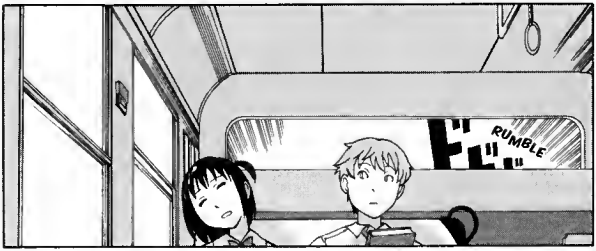
バス
丸子駅前
SIGN: BUS
SIGN: BUS STOP
MARUKO STATION
WHOA, ARASHI-YAMA?
YOU LOOK TERRIBLE!
I WAS LATE BY A HAIR YESTER-DAY.
YEAH-HHH-
YOU'RE PRETTY EARLY TODAY, CONSIDER-ING HOW YOU USUALLY RUN LATE.

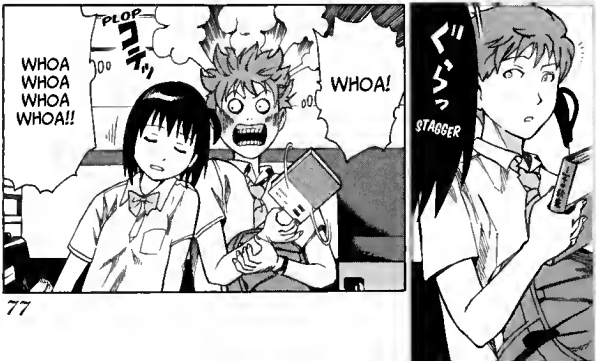
FLASH-BACK
SOB! I'M LATE BECAUSE THE BUS DECIDED TO STOP AT EVERY RED LIGHT—!
THAT'S WHAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO DO!
HUFF HUFF HUFF
:HUFF—: :PUFF—: MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GIVE UP...
ARASHIYAMA-SAN, DON'T GIVE UP! RUN!
WAJIMA-SAN...
ドドドド
THD THD THD THD
YAMA-KAWA.
HERE!
MORI.
MI-SAWA.
HERE.
HERE.

SAFE.
ARASHIYAMA YOU CAN STAND OUT IN THE HALLWAY DURING HOMEROOM SINCE YOU WERE LATE
WA-JIMA.
HERE!
SLAM
IF MY LAST NAME WERE WARASHI-YAMA...
WOULD HAVE BEEN SAFE.
FROM HEAVEN TO HELL BECAUSE MY NAME FALLS AT THE BEGIN-NING OF THE ALPHA-BET!!!
THAT'S NO FAIR!!
:SNIFF...:
WHA—!?
SLIDE
IF YOU CAN'T STAND QUIETLY, I'LL MARK YOU ABSENT.
SNIFF, SNIFF...
:GIGGLE:
:...SNIFF.:

BOOK: 1/4 MURDEROUS INTENT


プシュッ
PSSH
プシュー
PSSH
ドドドド
RUMBLE RUMBLE


ドドドド
RUMBLE


PLOP
コテッ
WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA!!
WHOA!
ぐらっ
STAGGER

NO WAY! HAVE MERCY!! IS THERE NO GOD?!!
NEXT STOP. OYA HIGH SCHOOL—
THANK YOU, GOD! THANK YOU, GOD!!
WILL END SHORTLY BY MY OWN FINGER IN A CRUEL TWIST OF FATE...?!!
BUTTON: STOP
とまります
SNRR
MY MO-MENT OF PURE BLISS ...

I'M NOT A MAN!
IF I GET OFF THE BUS NOW...
THE HOROSCOPE SAID THAT TODAY'S LUCKY BLOOD TYPE WAS A, A, A...
WAIT!!
MAKE A LONG TRIP TO SHORTEN THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE ONE YOU ADORE!!
MINYA
MINYA
...KEEP THIS RENDEZ-VOUS GOING AS LONG AS I CAN
MUST...

WHERE ARE WE?
...THE LAST STOP...
上車庫
SIGN: GARAGE

NO WAAAY— FIRST PERIOD ALREADY STARTED
SORRY... I... FELL ASLEEP, TOO...
IT'LL BE SECOND PERIOD BY THE TIME WE GET TO SCHO-OOOL—
THE NEXT BUS WILL BE IN TWENTY MINUTES OR SO.
:YAWN-:
AREN'T BUSES SUPPOSED TO KEEP CIRCLING AROUND?
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
BUT APPAR-ENTLY NOT.
WE LEARN SOME-THING NEW EVERY DAY.

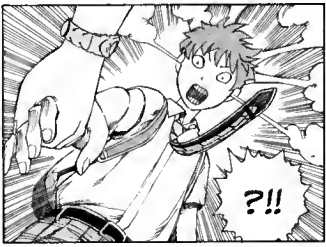
IT'S A NICE DAY.
MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST SKIP CLASS TODAY...
FOR REAL?
HEHE. YEAH, HEH.
JUST KID-DING.

WELL, I GUESS THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE LIVING IN PLACES WE'VE NEVER SEEN.
WHOA— I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THIS TOWN BEFORE!
DIDN'T TAKE HER LONG TO CHEER UP.
IT'S REASSURING TO KNOW...
BUT I'M ALSO A LITTLE SAD FOR SOME REASON.

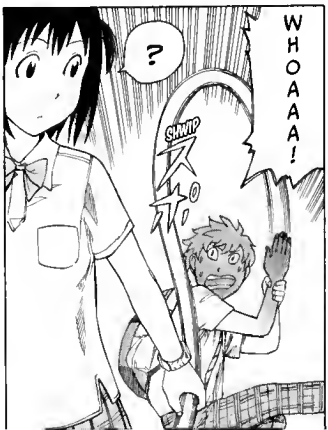
GRABS

OKAY, SANADA! LET'S GO ON AN ADVENTURE!
YOU SOUND HAPPY.

OH, SORRY. I HAVE YOUNGER SIBLINGS, SO I HAVE A HABIT OF HOLDING HANDS.
YOU DON'T LIKE TO HOLD HANDS?


?!!

THAT IS ABSOLUTELY NOT THE CASE! THERE IS NOTHING UNPLEASANT ABOUT HOLDING HANDS...
BUT...


WHOAAA!
?
SWIP!

UH, I ONLY HOLD HANDS WITH CERTAIN PEOPLE.
I DON'T THINK A GIRL IN HIGH SCHOOL SHOULD BE CASUALLY HOLDING HANDS WITH EVERY PERSON UNDER THE SKY...
BANNER: CONGRATULATIONS
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR SUPPORT!
...HAVE WON THE ELEC-TION!!
I, SANADA HIRO-YUKI...
clap パチ
SASHI ARASHIYAMA PARTY SANADA HIROYUKI
TWI-TCHE
TWI-TCHE
AFTER 35 SECONDS
SHUFFE
SHUFFE
SHUFFE
AFTER 20 SECONDS
SHING.
AFTER 5 SECONDS

AH—! I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS!
JOY
I'M BURNING THROUGH THE HAPPI-NESS I WAS BUDGETED IN THIS LIFE!!
OH, A RIVER
THE TAMA RIVER
… HEH …
Wobble Wobble
MAYBE WE CAN FOLLOW THE RIVER HOME.
IF WE WALK UNTIL OUR LEGS ARE COMPLETELY OUT, MAYBE…
:SOB: I SKIPPED CLASS…
IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT.

ドドドド
RUMBLE
プシュー

WE USED TO PLAY TOGETHER ALL THE TIME WHEN WE WERE LITTLE.

IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE THE LAST TIME WE WENT OUT TOGETHER.
YEAH.

I-I WONDER WHY WE STOPPED...

YOU DON'T REMEMBER?!
HUH?

WHO TOLD ME TO STOP!
LET'S GO!!
I'M NOT GONNA PLAY WITH A GIRL STUPID!
YOU'RE THE ONE...

I THINK SHE'S RIGHT.
ガ"
!
SHOCK

I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER, BUT I SHOULD PROBABLY APOLOGIZE AT SOME POINT.
...I'M SORRY.

I SHOULD WRITE DOWN EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED TODAY IN MY DIARY BEFORE I FORGET.
:SIGH:
I'M HOME.
HUH? THAT'S IT?
TODAY, I SKIPPED CLASS WITH ARASHIYAMA.
I SHOULD READ BOOKS TO IMPROVE MY WRITING SKILLS...
BUT I ALREADY KNOW WHO THE CULPRIT IS.

CHAPTER 5/END

TITLE

"APPREHENSION"

ARASHIYAMA QUIZ

Q: WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THIS IMAGE?

A: 1) SHE'S RUNNING LATE
2) SHE'S HUNGRY
3) SHE'S LOOKING FOR A HAIR TIE
4) SHE'S LOOKING FOR HER SKIRT
5) SHE'S LOOKING FOR HER OTHER SOCK
6) SHE'S LOOKING FOR HER RIBBON

ANSWER: ALL OF THE ABOVE

YAY! I WON TICKETS TO THE PREMIERE! YAHOO!!

NOW.. SANADA-KUN AND I CAN..

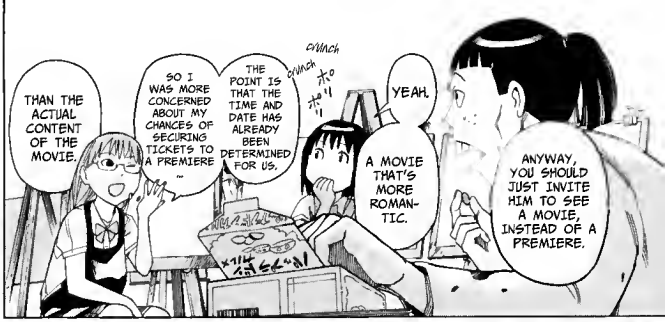
AH! I SOUNDED LIKE ARASHIYAMA-SAN JUST NOW...! SHE'S INFLUENCING MY BEHAVIOR?!
I MUST BE CAREFUL...

ANYWAY, THE FIRST STAGE IS COMPLETE ...!

CHAPTER 6
TATSUNO TOSHIKO NEVER BREAKS

10 DAYS UNTIL THE PREMIERE

OOH, I CAN TASTE HER BITTERSWEET TEARS, HARIBARA-SAN.
AH... BUT I'M STARTING TO GET NERVOUS...
YES, I CAN SMELL THE SPRING IN THE AIR, ARASHI-YAMA-SAN.
BBQ


ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD JUST INVITE HIM TO SEE A MOVIE, INSTEAD OF A PREMIERE.
YEAH.
A MOVIE THAT'S MORE ROMAN-TIC.
crunch
crunch
THE POINT IS THAT THE TIME AND DATE HAS ALREADY BEEN DETERMINED FOR US.
SO I WAS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT MY CHANCES OF SECURING TICKETS TO A PREMIERE
THAN THE ACTUAL CONTENT OF THE MOVIE.

HEY.
WHY ARE YOU EATING DURING CLASS?
AH!
H-HEHE... WOULD YOU LIKE ONE?
.....

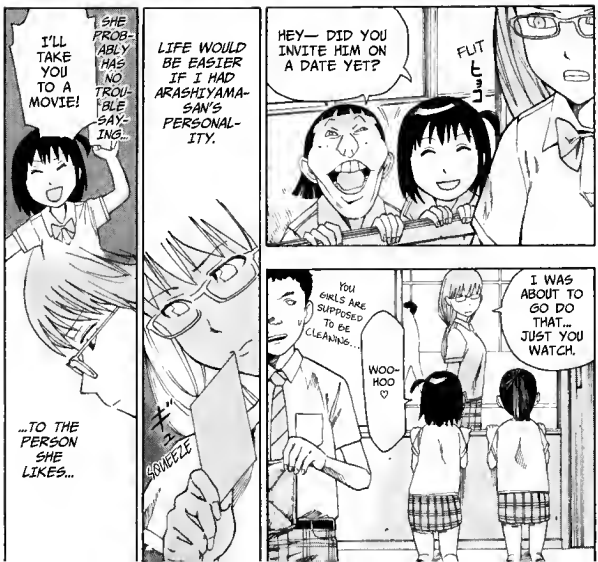
ガラ
ガラ
CLATTER
CLATTER
AH!
THAT'S MEAN!!

NOT BAD.
OH!
KABO
LET ME SEE YOUR PAINTING.
YEAH, YEAH. HERE—
:CRUNCH:
...ARASHIYAMA, I'M GOING TO GRADE WHAT YOU HAVE DONE.
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A SKETCH OF A DOG LYING ON THE GROUND.
WHILE ABSTRACT, I CAN CLEARLY SEE THE HORSE GALLOPING LIKE THE WIND.
HEY! FOLLOW ME!! (USED INCORRECTLY)
WHAT?! NO FOLLOW-UP?!
YES!
OKAY, NEXT UP IS EBISU.
...A DOG.
A DOG.

7 DAYS UNTIL THE PREMIERE
ヒソ
SWIK
ヒソ
SWIK
ヒソ
SWIK
TODAY IS THE DAY I ASK HIM!
IF SANADA-KUN COMES TO THE CAFE TODAY...
DA-DA DAHH
ドュドン
I'LL ASK HIM!!
DUN
ドン
ダラー
droop
ガク
STUMBLE

WHOA!
WHY IS SHE SO MAD?!
LOOK AT YOURSELF!! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A MAID?!!! I WOULD BE ASHAMED TO SEND YOU OUT ON THE FLOOR!
OH!
SO TOMORROW, THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW...
SUMMER UNIFORMS, HUHH?
WEEELL, I COULD PROBABLY MAKE ONE OVERNIGHT.
...I MEAN, THIS OUTFIT IS SO HOT. GRAN, MAKE US SUMMER UNIFORMS.
IF THE CHIEF MAID PULLS THREE ALL-NIGHTERS IN A ROW, SHE'LL DIE!!
I WON'T DIE!!
IN *THREE DAYS*, YOU CAN MAKE THREE UNIFORMS!

3 DAYS UNTIL THE PREMIERE
SERIOUSLY, I HAVE TO DO IT TODAY. TODAY! TODAY! I'LL ASK HIM TODAY...!
I'VE BEEN LETTING THE LAID-BACK ARASHIYAMA-SAN DICTATE MY PACE... I ONLY HAVE THREE DAYS LEFT!
1-A


I'LL TAKE YOU TO A MOVIE!
SHE PROBABLY HAS NO TROUBLE SAYING...
LIFE WOULD BE EASIER IF I HAD ARASHIYAMA-SAN'S PERSONALITY.
HEY— DID YOU INVITE HIM ON A DATE YET?
FUT
ﾌﾞﾝ
...TO THE PERSON SHE LIKES...
ｷｭｯ
SQUEEZE
YOU GIRLS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CLEANING...
WOO-HOO ♡
I WAS ABOUT TO GO DO THAT... JUST YOU WATCH.

WHACK
WHOOSH
SANA-DA-KUN!
WOULD YOU LIKE...
HUH?
UM... WOULD YOU LIKE...
WOULD YOU...
OKAY, SHE FAILS!!
...WOULD YOU LIKE TO CLEAN INSTEAD OF FOOLING AROUND?
TURN

EEEEH?
SANADA-KUN JUST LEFT. ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

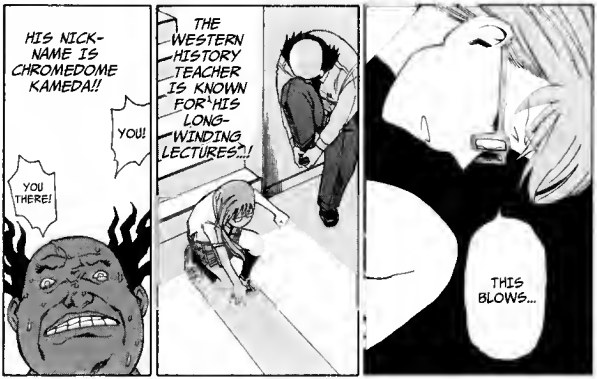
WANT ME TO INVITE HIM FOR YOU?
EIGHT WORDS FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION MARK, AND I CAN'T SAY THEM.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO SEE A MOVIE?
YOU CAN CATCH HIM IF YOU RUN.

I'LL GO!!!
!!
BAM
...NO.

CAN YOU BELIEVE I WAS ACTUALLY HAPPY FOR A MOMENT...
...WHEN SHE OFFERED TO ASK HIM FOR ME?
...NOTHING I CAN'T JUMP.
TMP
TMP
TMP
FIVE OR SIX STEPS IS...
GAH!! THE WESTERN HISTORY TEACHER, KAMEDA!!
WHOOSH

※**MARTIN LUTHER, 1483-1546**

A GERMAN PROTESTANT REFORMIST. IN 1517, HE WROTE THE NINETY-FIVE THESES, WHICH LED TO THE BEGINNING OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION—


HIS NICK-NAME IS CHROMEDOME KAMEDA!!
YOU!
YOU THERE!
THE WESTERN HISTORY TEACHER IS KNOWN FOR[1] HIS LONG-WINDING LECTURES...!
THIS BLOWS...

ARASHI-YAMA-SAN—
...IS CAPABLE OF ESCAPING ANY PICKLE.
WHAT WOULD SHE SAY? WHAT WOULD ARASHIYAMA-SAN DO IN THIS SITUATION?
NO.
NO, NO.
WHAT WOULD I DO?

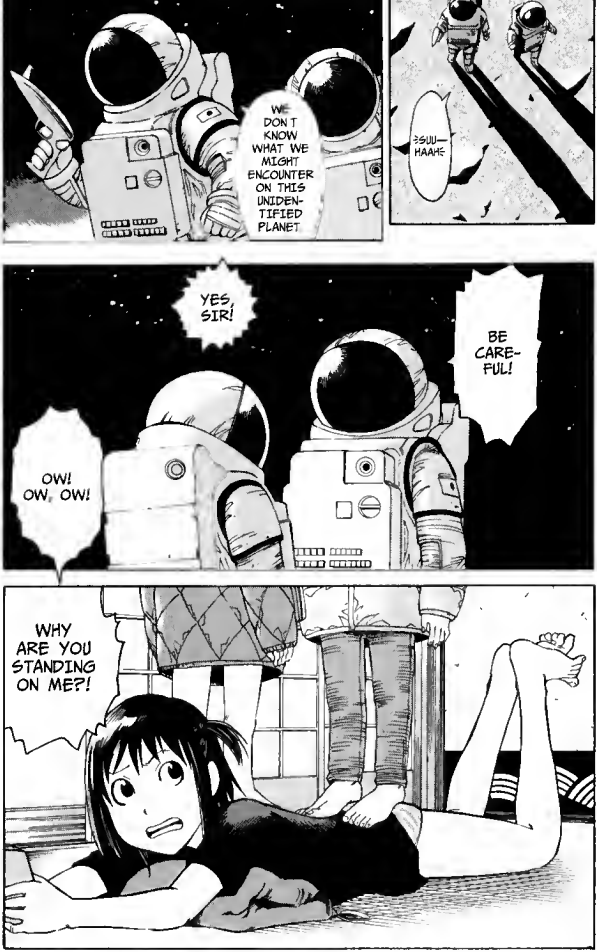
RUSTLE
I'M SORRY, MR. KAMEDA.
I MISSED A STEP, BUT FORTUNATELY, I WASN'T INJURED.
I-I SEE... BE CAREFUL...
I WILL. EXCUSE ME.

DAY OF THE PREMIERE
BRUSH
BRUSH
HUH? WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO GO SEE A MOVIE WITH THE FISHMONGER'S KID?
EH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THAT IS HOW I WOULD PLAY MY CARDS.
SOMETIMES, IT'S MORE EFFECTIVE TO DO THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT IS INTUITIVE.
RATTLE
カラン
カラン
RATTLE
WELL, THIS OLD LADY KNOWS WHEN TO MAKE HERSELF SCARCE.
OH... I GET IT.

CHAPTER 6/END

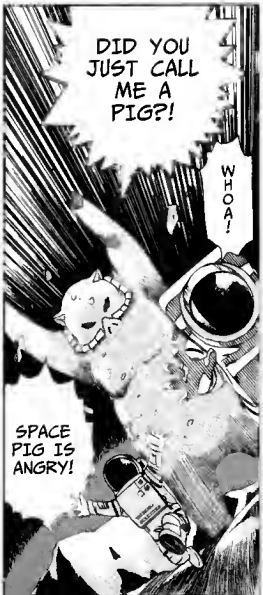
CHAPTER 7
SPACE ADVENTURE ROMANCE

WE HAVE IMAGES FROM THE PROBE WHICH WAS ABLE TO LAND SAFELY ON JUPITER.
EVERY-ONE GETS TO SEE THE SURFACE OF JUPITER
ブォー
BUZZ
バチン
CLICK
OOH—
COOL—
SPACE IS NO LONGER A BIG DEAL
OH.
MAYBE THEY'RE TRYING TO TRICK US?
ふぅ—
HAAH
ふぅ—
HAAH


WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE MIGHT ENCOUNTER ON THIS UNIDENTIFIED PLANET.
≥SUU— HAAH≤
BE CARE-FUL!
YES, SIR!
OW! OW, OW!
WHY ARE YOU STANDING ON ME?!

IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS! SCOUT ITS POWER LEVEL.
THAT WAS YOUR GOAL?
YES, SIR! BEEP BEEP
TV REMOTE CONTROL
OW, OW...

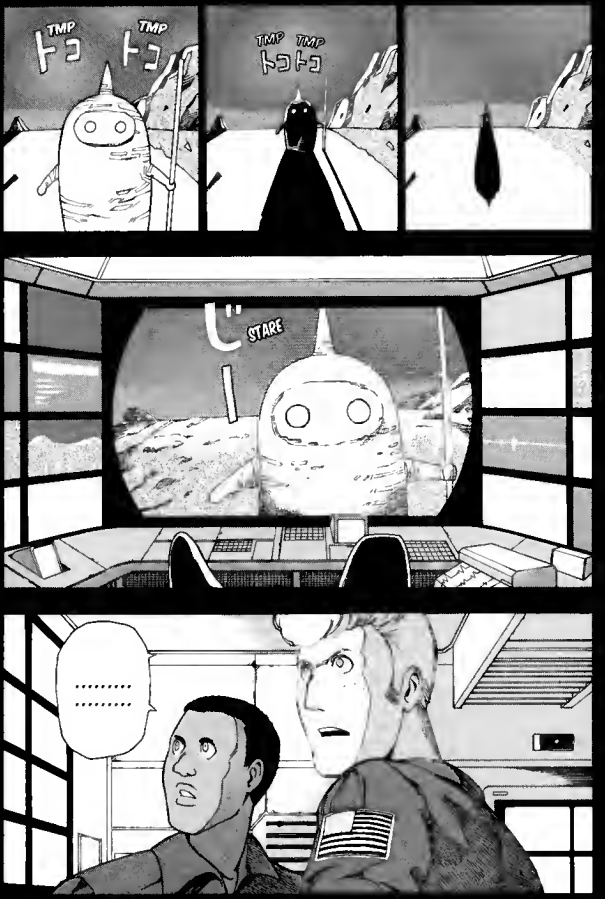
WHOA! THE ROCK IS ALIVE!!


DID YOU JUST CALL ME A PIG?!
WHOA!
SPACE PIG IS ANGRY!

IT'S E! WEAK.
COMBAT RANK E.
I'M WEAK?

カチ!ン
SNAP
ITS NAME IS SPACE PIG.
WHAT'S ITS NAME?

THE SPACE CENTER IN XX, USA
HEY, GEORGE WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I MAGNIFIED THE PHOTO FROM THE JUPITER PROBE.
TO ME, IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING HIDING BEHIND THE ROCK.
RIDICULOUS, STEVE! IT MUST BE A TRICK OF THE LIGHT.
BESIDES... THE FINDINGS FROM THE PROBE INDICATED THAT THERE IS ZERO POSSIBILITY OF LIFE ON THE PLANET!
IT WOULD MAKE MORE SENSE FOR YOU TO BE BATMAN!


TMP
トコ
TMP
トコ
TMP
TMP
トコトコ
じ
STARE
.....
.....

PRIVATE YUKIKO!!
WAAAAAH!
GRRR!
SORRY, DISTRACT HER FOR ME.
TAKERU!
YOU'RE NEXT!!
CHIEEEE!
FLASH!
BEAM!
WHACK
WHACK
OW! OW!

...ALL THOSE USELESS PHRASES?
HONESTLY, WHERE DOES HE LEARN...
SO HOT...
PRIVATE YUKIKO! YOUR SACRIFICE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN!
ONCE I RETURN TO EARTH, I'LL MAKE SURE YOU RECEIVE A POSTHUMOUS PROMOTION!
DASH

ゴゴゴ
RUMBLE
WAIT UP, YOU STUPID BRAT!
ザァアア
POUR

SWING
SWING
NOT A SINGLE TRACE OF ANY LIVING ORGANISMS.
NOTHING BUT BARREN EARTH
WHEW.
I CAN SEE THE SURFACE OF JUPITER!
WHAT'S WRONG? DID YOU SEE SOMETHING, GEORGE?

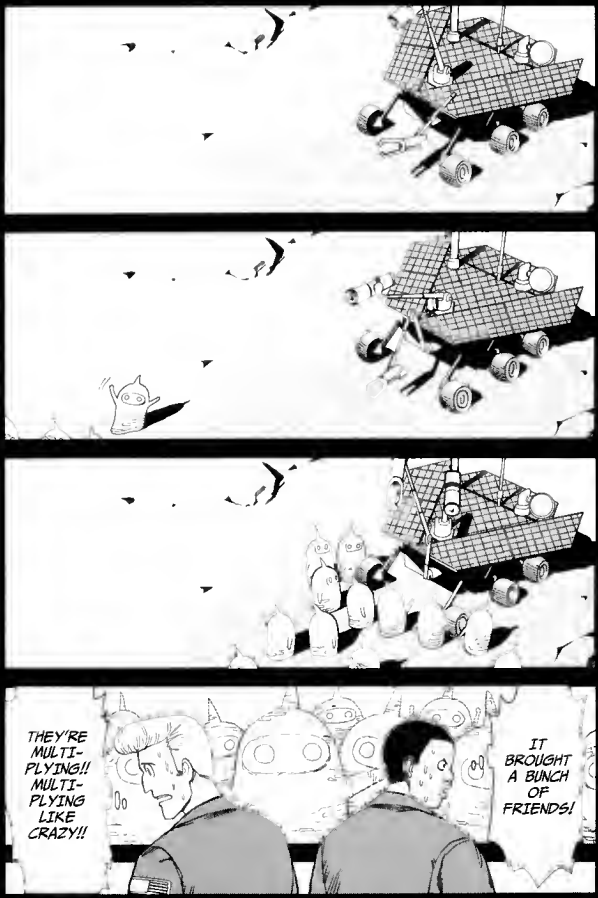
UGH...

POUR
ザァ

DAMN— IS THIS THE END?!
CHK カチ
CHK カチ
I'LL SAUTÉ YOU.
GWA HA HA. YOU LOOK DELI-CIOUS.

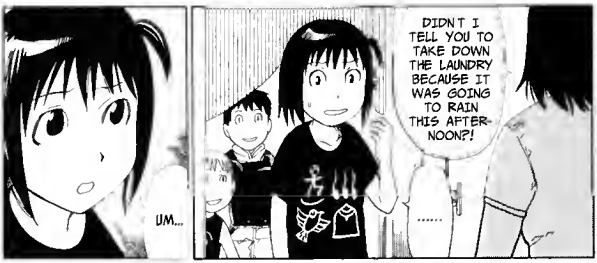
HOTORI! COME HERE FOR A MOMENT!!
O W W

RATTLE
ガラガラ
RATTLE


THEY'RE MULTI-PLYING!! MULTI-PLYING LIKE CRAZY!!
IT BROUGHT A BUNCH OF FRIENDS!

THEY'RE TAKING IT AWAY!!
THEY'RE TAKING THE PROBE.
YOU SHOULD BE. WE'VE BEEN STARING AT THE MONITORS FOR DAYS ON END.
I MUST BE REALLY TIRED.
SIGH--
WHAT'S WRONG, GEORGE?
I'M HAVING TROUBLE WITH JENNIFER.
TO BE HONEST, I'VE BEEN SEEING.. NO..
WELL ...
BUT IF THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S BUGGING YOU, LET ME KNOW.

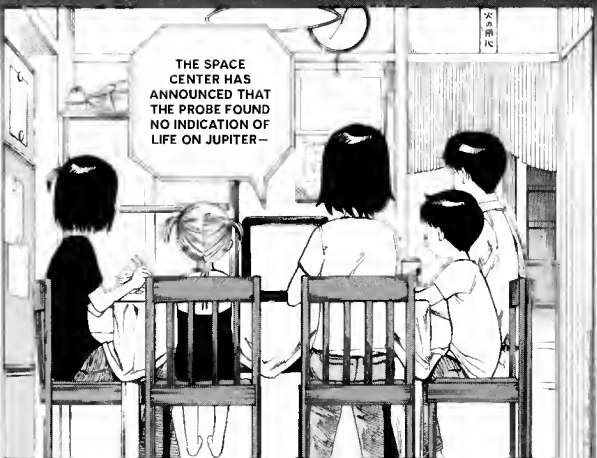
YOU NEED ME FOR SOME-THING?
WELCOME BACK, MOM!
SHIRT: WESTERN
AH.
ドサッ
THUD
べちゃ
SOMEHOW

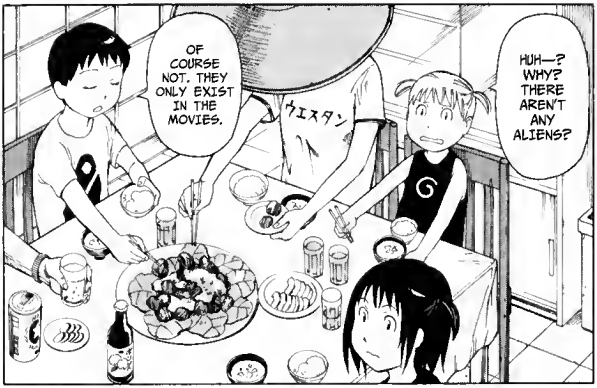

UM...
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO TAKE DOWN THE LAUNDRY BECAUSE IT WAS GOING TO RAIN THIS AFTER-NOON?!
.....

COM-BAT RANK A!!
HO-TORI!
IT'S A SPACE DEMON! RUN—!!

THIS IS WHAT I TOLD MY FIANCÉE
JENNIFER'S ALWAYS SAYING THAT I SPEND MORE TIME ON SPACE THAN I DO WITH HER.
I'VE BEEN THROUGH THAT.
HA HA! HA HA!
HEY! YOU'RE AWESOME, STEVE!
...THE MYS-TERY OF WHY YOU SHINE SO BRIGHT-LY!
MY RESEARCH OF THE STARS IS TO SOLVE...

THEY'RE THROWING A PARTY!!
THEY'RE TRYING TO MAKE US FEEL WELCOME!!


THE SPACE CENTER HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE PROBE FOUND NO INDICATION OF LIFE ON JUPITER—



CHAPTER 7/END

THE STANDARD JOVIAN POLE, CALLED THE HAOLIBEY (IN JOVIAN)
HAS MANY USES, SUCH AS SERVING AS A FLASHLIGHT (SINCE IT GLOWS), KNOCKING SHUTTLECOCKS OFF OF TREE BRANCHES, ETC...

POOR GUY
BY ISHIGURO MASAKAZU
HOW ABOUT I BUY YOU A DREAM DINNER, POOR GUY?
RICH GUY IS ALWAYS SUCH A JERK... BUT I WANT THE FOOD...
DAMN...
WOW!
YOU'LL DREAM ABOUT A SPLENDID DINNER. HA HA HA HA.
PUT THIS PICTURE UNDER YOUR PILLOW BEFORE YOU GO TO SLEEP.

(A FOUR-PANEL COMIC THAT'S SERIALIZED IN THE NEWSPAPER GRAN ALWAYS READS.)

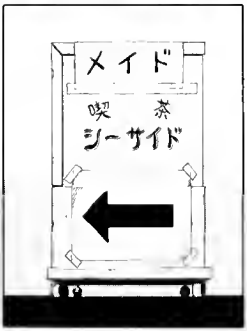
SIGN: MEETING IN SESSION NOBODY ALLOWED INSIDE

WAS IT YOU, HOTORI?! WE DON'T HAVE ANY CUSTOMERS BECAUSE YOU'RE AN IDIOT!
CHIEF MAID! LOOK AT WHAT WAS ON THE DOOR!
会議中
何人も立ち入るべからず

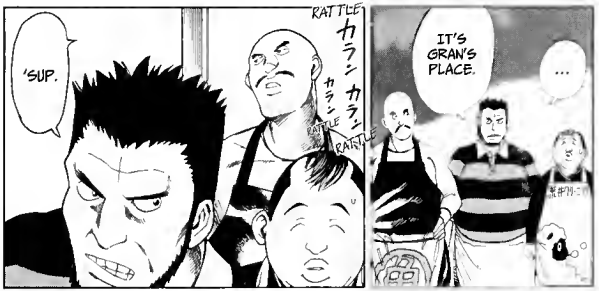
CHAPTER 8
THE POSTER GIRL IS WORLD FAMOUS

POSTERS: JOHN KICKBACK EMBEZZLE IS MY FIRST NAME! E. Z. LIFE

APRON: ARAI DRY-CLEANING



SIGN: MAID CAFE SEASIDE


'SUP.
RATTLE
カラン
カラン
RATTLE
RATTLE
IT'S GRAN'S PLACE.
...

SO... WHAT WERE THOSE ARROWS ABOUT?
IS THERE SOME KIND OF EVENT?
WEL-COME BACK.
COME A-MAID!!
SMILE
KE.H.
MAN, WE GOT SOME NASTY-LOOKING CUSTOM-ERS.
YOU GIRLS NEED TO GET ON THE SAME PAGE.

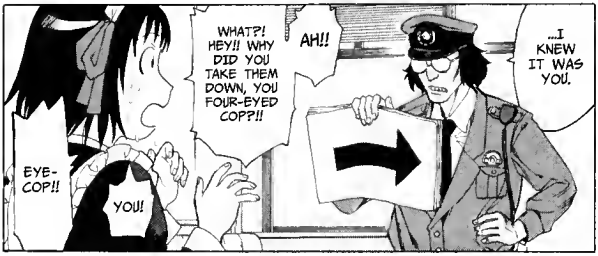
STICK ペタリ
SAME THING.
SOME-TIMES, I HAD TO BE A NINJA. OTHER TIMES, I HAD TO BE LIKE A SHINOBI.
I SPENT TWO DAYS PLACING ARROWS AROUND TOWN TO LEAD CUSTOMERS HERE.
EHEHEH, THEY WERE MY IDEA.
ARROWS? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SHOCK
.....
...AREN'T YOU HERE?
WE ARE!!
WA HA HA HA HA HA
YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD GET CUSTOMERS THAT WAY?

RIGHT AWAY.
THREE WA-TERS.
OH, WELL. LET'S HOLD THE AUTUMN FESTIVAL HERE.

CLATTER
YOU'RE BEING PRETTY DAMN OBVIOUS ABOUT SCREWING UP OUR ORDER!
THREE ORDERS OF PORK ON CURRY. GOT IT.
OKAY! THREE COFFEES, PLEASE.
THREE WATERS, PLEASE.

THE ARROWS.
BWAHAHA, ANOTHER PERSON HAS FALLEN INTO OUR TRAP! WE SHOULD RENAME THIS PLACE CAFE PIT TRAP!
NO WAY.
UH—
カラン コロン
RATTLE RATTLE

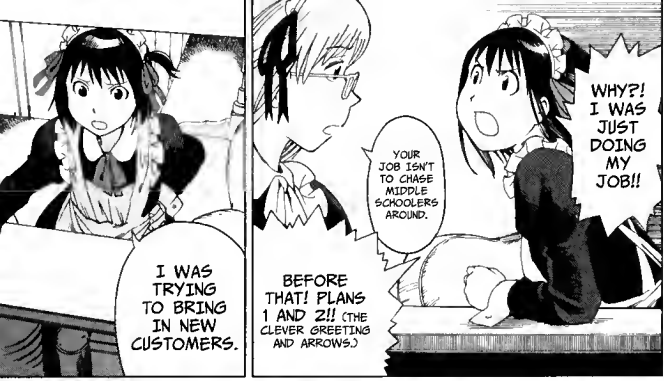

WHAT?! HEY!! WHY DID YOU TAKE THEM DOWN, YOU FOUR-EYED COP?!!
AH!!
...I KNEW IT WAS YOU.
EYE-COP!!
YOU!

IT'S NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO PICK ON YOU...
WAUHH
I SPENT ALL THAT EFFORT PUTTING THEM UP! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO MEAN TO ME?!

I FOUND THIRTY, AT LEAST.
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE PLACING THESE THINGS AROUND TOWN.
TAP
TAP

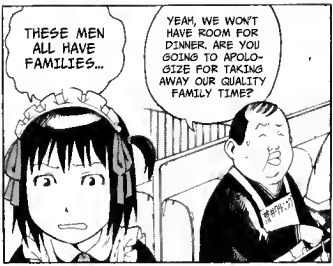
I COULD SAY THE EXACT SAME THING ABOUT YOU...
SO WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?! AN OBSTACLE IN MY PATH?!
I'M DOING WHAT'S BEST FOR THIS TOWN... YOU JUST HAPPEN TO BE IN THE WAY.
CHEW ON THIS ICE AND GIT.
CLINK
AH.
SNAP
SHIPE
I'M VERY SORRY. OUR MAID IS AN IDIOT...
...BE RUDE TO CUSTOM-ERS?!!
CLANG
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!!
DIDN'T WE TELL YOU THAT YOU SHOULDN'T ...
GYAH!

OKAY, GOT IT? IF YOU PULL A STUNT LIKE THIS AGAIN.. THAT'S IT. I'LL SHOOT YOU.
DUDE. WAS THAT A BEAT TAKESHI IMPRES-SION?
THAT WASN'T EVEN CLOSE
DUCH...
THAT STUPID-HEAD!
.....
WHOA! THE MAID SNAPPED!!
RUN, TAKU-CHAN!!
I'M TAKING THOSE THIRTY MINUTES OUT OF HER PAY-CHECK. NO APPEALS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, CHIEF MAID?
I SEE. SO YOU SPENT THE NEXT THIRTY MINUTES CHASING THOSE MIDDLE SCHOOLERS AROUND...


I WAS TRYING TO BRING IN NEW CUSTOMERS.
BEFORE THAT! PLANS 1 AND 2!! (THE CLEVER GREETING AND ARROWS.)
YOUR JOB ISN'T TO CHASE MIDDLE SCHOOLERS AROUND.
WHY?! I WAS JUST DOING MY JOB!!

WE'RE HELPING OUT BY EATING PORK ON CURRY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON.
WHAT?! SHOULD YOU REALLY BE INSULTING YOUR CUSTOMERS?
LOOK, OUR ONLY CUSTOMERS ARE THE REGULAR LOSERS.

STILL... I CAN UNDERSTAND THE POINT ARASHIYAMA-SAN IS TRYING TO MAKE.
THIS JOB IS MAKING ME NUMB.


THESE MEN ALL HAVE FAMILIES...
YEAH, WE WON'T HAVE ROOM FOR DINNER. ARE YOU GOING TO APOLOGIZE FOR TAKING AWAY OUR QUALITY FAMILY TIME?

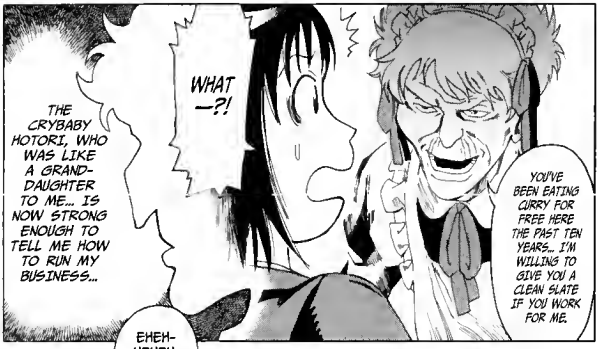
WHAA-AAT—
BUT... ARASHIYAMA-SAN'S PLANS WERE ALL INEFFECTIVE. THAT GREETING WAS ESPECIALLY A FAILURE.
WE SHOULDN'T RELY ON OUR NEIGHBORS TO BE REGULAR CUSTOMERS AT THIS MAID CAFE.

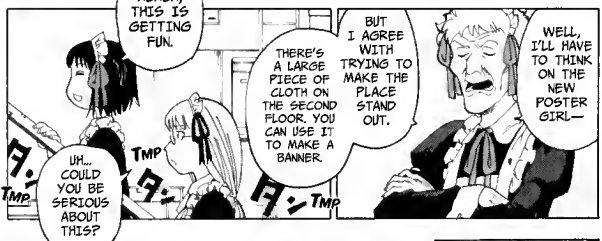
.....
HOW ABOUT WE FIND A NEW POSTER GIRL?
YES, SINCE WE'RE MAKING IT UP AS WE GO AT THE MOMENT.
LET'S TRY TO MAKE THIS PLACE STAND OUT, THEN.
喫茶
シーサイド

SIGN: MAID CAFE SEASIDE

SIGN: CAFE SEASIDE

I SEE, I SEE.
HERE, HAVE SOME CURRY.
WAAAH!
WAH!
WAH!
I SEE, I SEE.
HERE, HAVE SOME CURRY.
HEHE... I'M SUCH A COW-ARD.
I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO GIVE IT TO HIM.
I SEE, I SEE.
HERE, HAVE SOME CURRY.
LET ME BAWL MY EYES OUT!!
I JUST LOST MY WALLET!!
I HEARD THAT MAID CAFES ARE ALL THE RAGE NOW.
HEH HEH HEH.
SOME KIND OF REVOLU-TION?!
GRAN, WHAT'S WITH THE OUTFIT?!

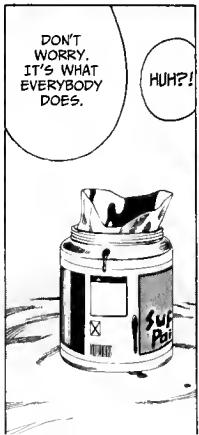

THE CRYBABY HOTORI, WHO WAS LIKE A GRAND-DAUGHTER TO ME... IS NOW STRONG ENOUGH TO TELL ME HOW TO RUN MY BUSINESS...
WHAT —?!
YOU'VE BEEN EATING CURRY FOR FREE HERE THE PAST TEN YEARS... I'M WILLING TO GIVE YOU A CLEAN SLATE IF YOU WORK FOR ME.


EHEH-HEHEH, THIS IS GETTING FUN.
THERE'S A LARGE PIECE OF CLOTH ON THE SECOND FLOOR. YOU CAN USE IT TO MAKE A BANNER.
BUT I AGREE WITH TRYING TO MAKE THE PLACE STAND OUT.
WELL, I'LL HAVE TO THINK ON THE NEW POSTER GIRL—
UH... COULD YOU BE SERIOUS ABOUT THIS?
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

FIRST, I'LL WRITE "MAID CAFE SEASIDE" IN GREAT BIG LETTERS.
WHAT SHOULD WE PUT?

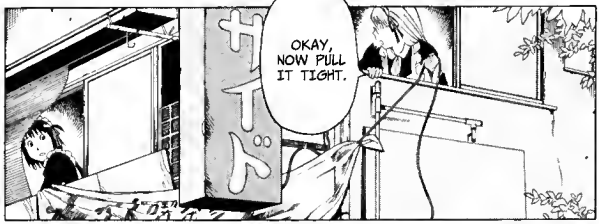
メイド喫茶シーサイド
MAID
CAFE SEASIDE

IT STARTS OFF BIG BUT THEN IT TAPERS OFF. JUST LIKE YOU, I SUPPOSE.
UH...
HFF
HFF


DON'T WORRY. IT'S WHAT EVERYBODY DOES.
HUH?!

GIVE ME SOME PAINT! I'LL PUT "WORLD-FAMOUS" IN THE EMPTY SPACE.

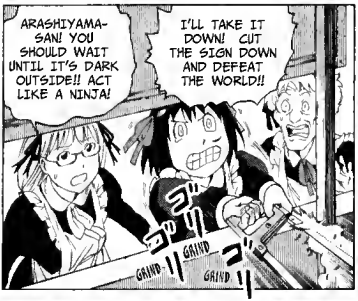
※APPEARS TO BE A NICKNAME FOR TATSUNO-SAN THAT SHE CAME UP WITH ON THE SPOT.



AH!!!

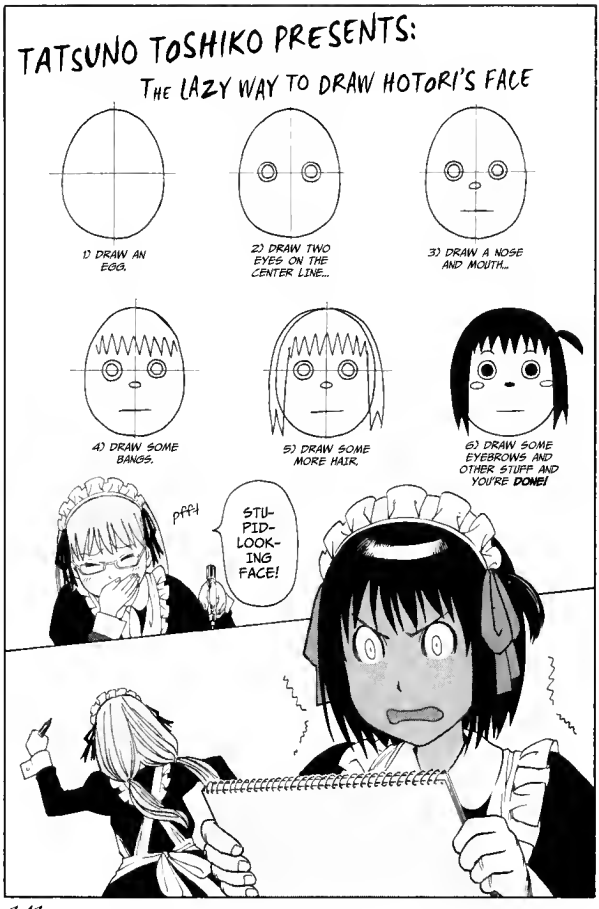
WORLD-FAMOUS
CAFE SEASIDE
大人気
CAVITIES?
ないとう歯科クリニック
NAITOU DENTAL CLINIC
WORLD-FAMOUS CAVITIES...!!

IT FEELS LIKE THE ENTIRE WORLD IS AGAINST ME TODAY...!!
CURSE YOU, NAITOU DENTAL CLINIC—
.....

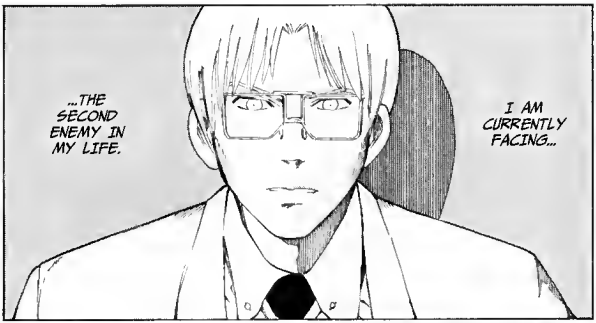

ARASHIYAMA-SAN! YOU SHOULD WAIT UNTIL IT'S DARK OUTSIDE!! ACT LIKE A NINJA!
I'LL TAKE IT DOWN! CUT THE SIGN DOWN AND DEFEAT THE WORLD!!
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND

CHAPTER 8/END

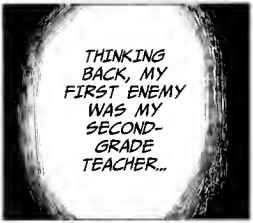
SIGN IN WINDOW: LUNCHTIME / COFFEE ¥150

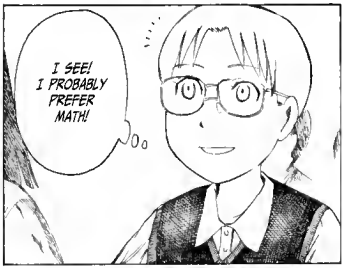

TATSUNO TOSHIKO PRESENTS:
THE LAZY WAY TO DRAW HOTORI'S FACE
1) DRAW AN EGG.
2) DRAW TWO EYES ON THE CENTER LINE...
3) DRAW A NOSE AND MOUTH...
4) DRAW SOME BANGS.
5) DRAW SOME MORE HAIR.
6) DRAW SOME EYEBROWS AND OTHER STUFF AND YOU'RE DONE!
pfft
STU-PID-LOOK-ING FACE!

CHAPTER 9
EQUATION OF LOVE


I AM CURRENTLY FACING...
...THE SECOND ENEMY IN MY LIFE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, EACH OF THESE PROBLEMS ONLY HAS ONE ANSWER.
THAT'S WHAT MAKES MATH FUN.

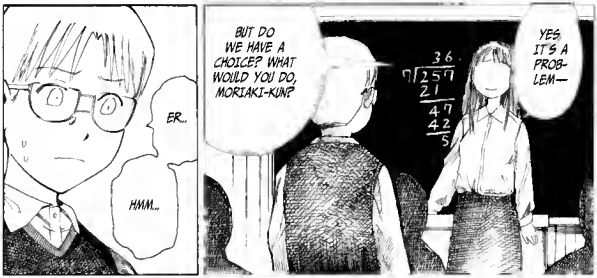

THINKING BACK, MY FIRST ENEMY WAS MY SECOND-GRADE TEACHER...

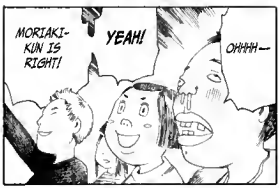

I SEE! I PROBABLY PREFER MATH!

FOR EXAMPLE, EVERY PERSON HAS A DIFFERENT REACTION WHEN THEY READ A STORY, RIGHT? LITERATURE IS FUN BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT POSSIBLE ANSWERS.

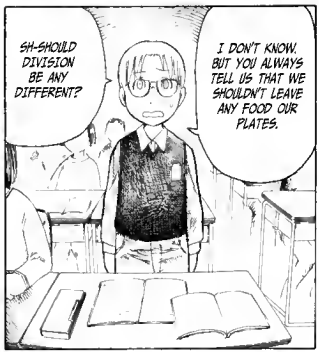
DIVISION
わり算
WE CAN'T DO ANY MORE DIVIDING, BUT WE AREN'T FINISHED YET.
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
OH?
SO WE PUT REMAINDER 5
TAP
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE LEFTOVER AMOUNT...
WHAT DO WE DO?!
SHE'S RIGHT!!
CLATTER
WAIT A MOMENT, TEACHER...!
!!!?
MORIAKI-KUN?

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS CORRECT?
THIS FEELS A LITTLE UNSCIEN-TIFIC...
UH...! WELL...

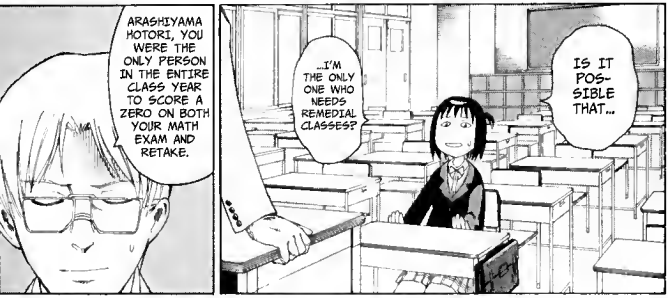

ER...
HMM...
BUT DO WE HAVE A CHOICE? WHAT WOULD YOU DO, MORIAKI-KUN?
YES IT'S A PROB-LEM—


MORIAKI-KUN IS RIGHT!
YEAH!
OHHH—

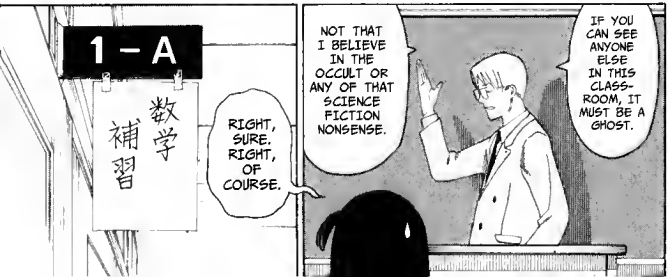
I PULLED THAT EXPLANATION OUT OF NOWHERE, BUT EVERYBODY AGREES WITH ME.

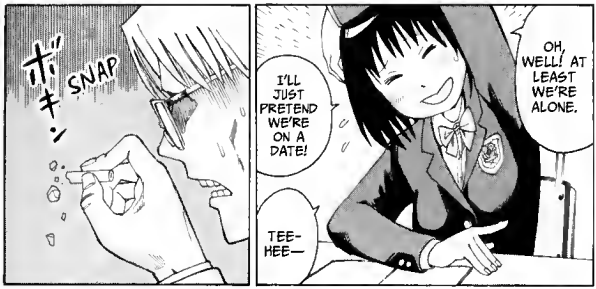

SH-SHOULD DIVISION BE ANY DIFFERENT?
I DON'T KNOW. BUT YOU ALWAYS TELL US THAT WE SHOULDN'T LEAVE ANY FOOD OUR PLATES.

OHHHHHH...
36 ... 5
BUT WHEN YOU'RE SERVED PERSIMMONS FOR LUNCH, YOU LEAVE THE SEEDS, RIGHT? THE REMAINDER IN A DIVISION PROBLEM IS THE SAME.
IT'S TRUE THAT WE DON'T WANT TO STOP HALF-WAY THROUGH A PROBLEM.
THIS TRAVESTY HAD A LASTING IMPACT ON MY LIFE. IT LED TO MY BECOMING A MATH TEACHER.
I'M THE ONE THAT'S STUPID ?!!
MORIAKI, TAKE A SEAT. STUPID.
WOULD YOU EAT PERSIMMON SEEDS?
...THE SECOND ENEMY IN MY LIFE.
AND RIGHT NOW, I'M FACE-TO-FACE WITH...

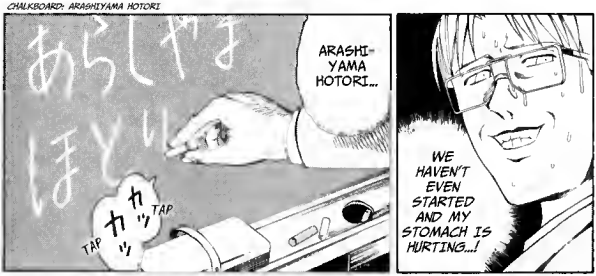

ARASHIYAMA HOTORI, YOU WERE THE ONLY PERSON IN THE ENTIRE CLASS YEAR TO SCORE A ZERO ON BOTH YOUR MATH EXAM AND RETAKE.
...I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO NEEDS REMEDIAL CLASSES?
IS IT POS-SIBLE THAT...

SIGH: REMEDIAL MATH

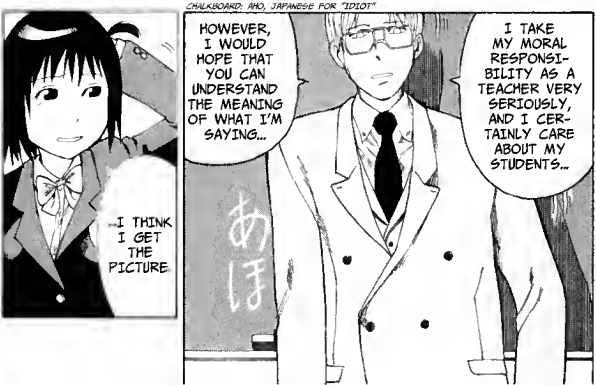

1 - A
数学
補習
RIGHT, SURE. RIGHT, OF COURSE.
NOT THAT I BELIEVE IN THE OCCULT OR ANY OF THAT SCIENCE FICTION NONSENSE.
IF YOU CAN SEE ANYONE ELSE IN THIS CLASS-ROOM, IT MUST BE A GHOST.

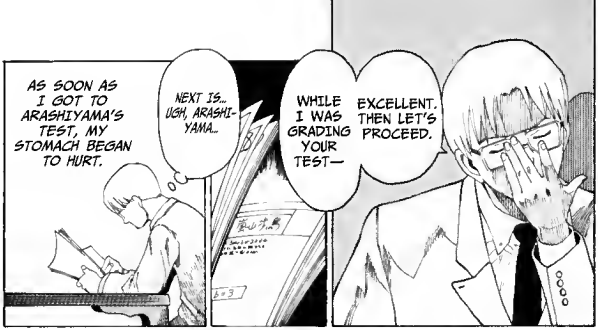


CHALKBOARD: ARASHIYAMA HOTORI

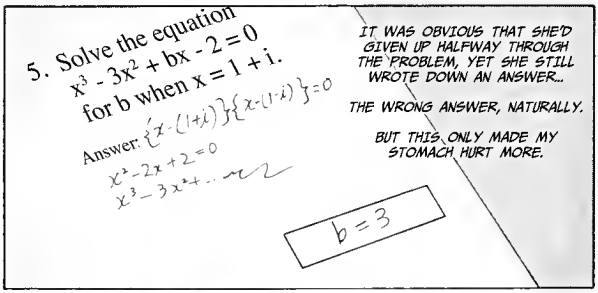


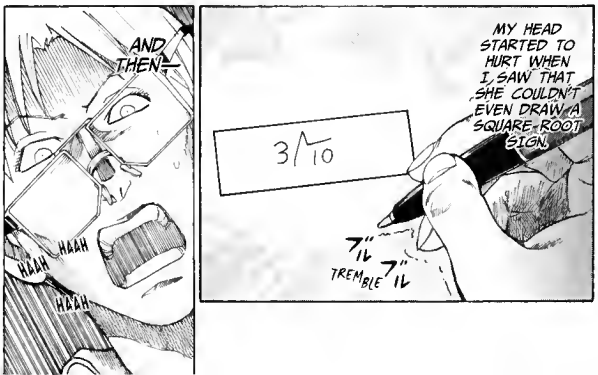
CHALKBOARD: AHO, JAPANESE FOR "IDIOT"

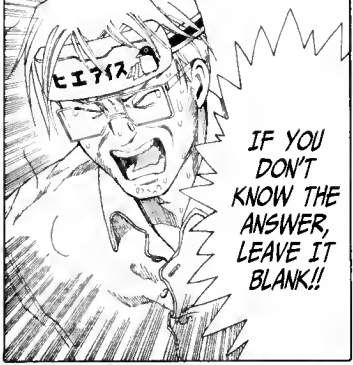

I THINK I GET THE PICTURE
HOWEVER, I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF WHAT I'M SAYING...
I TAKE MY MORAL RESPONSI-BILITY AS A TEACHER VERY SERIOUSLY, AND I CER-TAINLY CARE ABOUT MY STUDENTS...
あほ

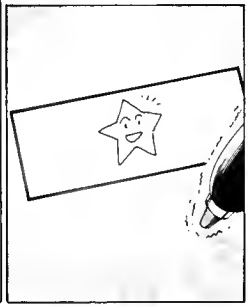

AS SOON AS I GOT TO ARASHIYAMA'S TEST, MY STOMACH BEGAN TO HURT.
NEXT IS... UGH, ARASHIYAMA...
WHILE I WAS GRADING YOUR TEST—
EXCELLENT. THEN LET'S PROCEED.
b=3

PAPER, ARASHIYAMA HOTORI

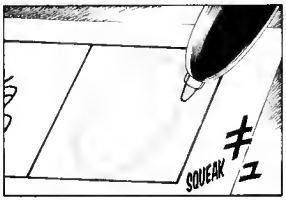

5. Solve the equation $x^3 - 3x^2 + bx - 2 = 0$ for b when $x = 1 + i$.
Answer: $\{x-(1+i)\}\{x-(1-i)\}=0$
$x^2-2x+2=0$
$x^3-3x^2+\cdots$
b=3
IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT SHE'D GIVEN UP HALFWAY THROUGH THE PROBLEM, YET SHE STILL WROTE DOWN AN ANSWER...
THE WRONG ANSWER, NATURALLY.
BUT THIS ONLY MADE MY STOMACH HURT MORE.

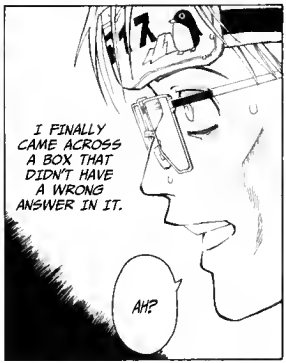






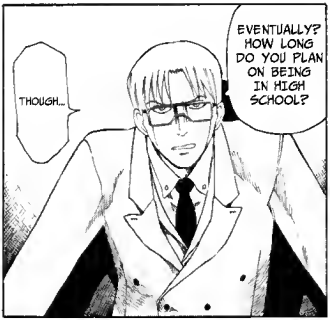
FOREHEAD: ICE PACK

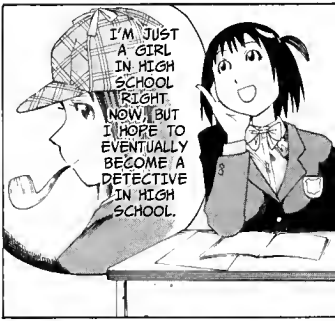




ARASHIYAMA'S TEST ANSWERS WERE TAKING YEARS OFF MY LIFE.

NO WAY!!
YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO MURDER ME WITH YOUR TEST ANSWERS!!
YOU'RE CLEARLY OUT TO GET ME.
THE WORST PART IS THAT YOU HAVE ACCEPTABLE GRADES IN YOUR OTHER CLASSES.
EHE-HEH.
YOU'RE A MYSTERY FAN, RIGHT?
D-DE-TECTIVE WORK?
THAT'S BECAUSE MATH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH DETECTIVE WORK...


EVENTUALLY? HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON BEING IN HIGH SCHOOL?
THOUGH...


I'M JUST A GIRL IN HIGH SCHOOL RIGHT NOW, BUT I HOPE TO EVENTUALLY BECOME A DETECTIVE IN HIGH SCHOOL.

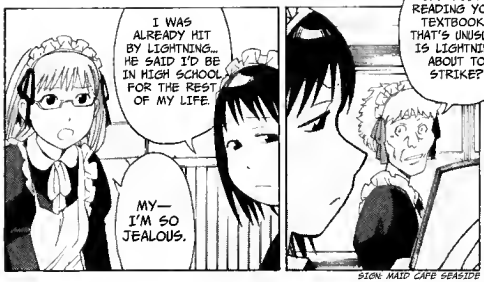
YOU MIGHT BECOME A DETECTIVE IN HIGH SCHOOL AT THE AGE OF TWENTY.
ガー
SHOCK
IF YOU KEEP FLUNKING, YOUR WISH MAY COME TRUE.

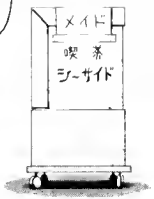
MR. MORI-AKI.
THAT WAS FAST.

GOOD.
scratch scratch
カリ カリ

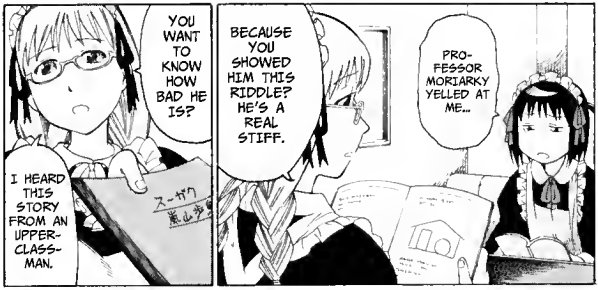
THESE REMEDIAL CLASSES ARE TO PREVENT THAT FROM HAPPEN-ING.
NOW, SOLVE THESE PROB-LEMS.

...WHAT'S THIS?
How did a metal ball that's 1 meter in diameter get in this house?
door
80 cm
180 cm
metal ball
100 cm
OF COURSE.
?
ARE ALL THE NECES-SARY NUMBERS ON HERE?
DO YOU KNOW HOW THE METAL BALL GOT INSIDE THE HOUSE?
GULP
ぎょぎょっ
...FAST-ER...
SO IF YOU JUST GIVE ME THE ANSWERS, I'LL BE ABLE TO LEARN...
IN LIFE, YOU NEED TO LOOK AT EVERY SITUATION FROM DIFFERENT ANGLES.
THE ANSWER IS... THE METAL BALL WASN'T MOVED INTO THE HOUSE. THE HOUSE WAS BUILT AROUND THE METAL BALL.

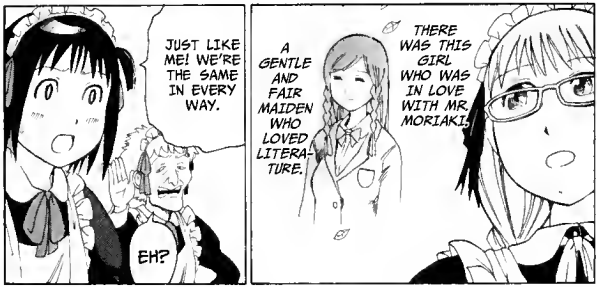

I WAS ALREADY HIT BY LIGHTNING... HE SAID I'D BE IN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
MY— I'M SO JEALOUS.
OH? YOU'RE READING YOUR TEXTBOOK? THAT'S UNUSUAL. IS LIGHTNING ABOUT TO STRIKE?

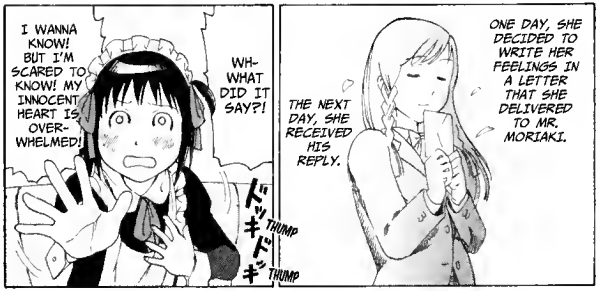


SIGN: MAID CAFE SEASIDE

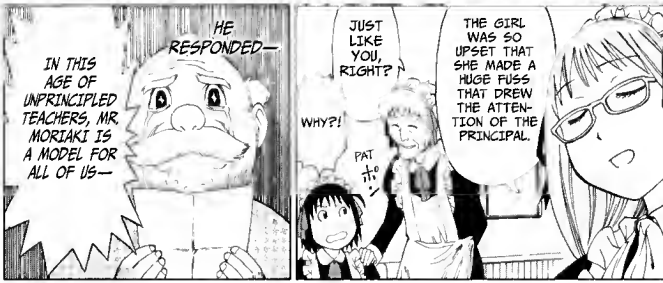

YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW BAD HE IS?
I HEARD THIS STORY FROM AN UPPER-CLASS-MAN.
スーガク 苦心少
BECAUSE YOU SHOWED HIM THIS RIDDLE? HE'S A REAL STIFF.
PRO-FESSOR MORIARKY YELLED AT ME...

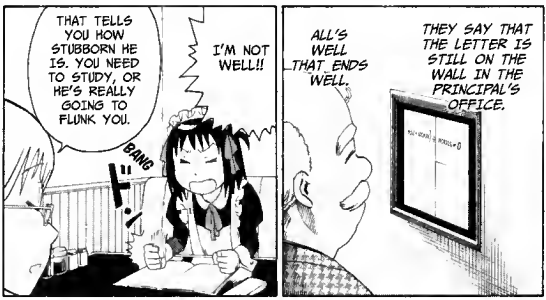
NOTEBOOK: MATH, ARASHIYAMA HOTORI


JUST LIKE ME! WE'RE THE SAME IN EVERY WAY.
EH?
A GENTLE AND FAIR MAIDEN WHO LOVED LITERA-TURE.
THERE WAS THIS GIRL WHO WAS IN LOVE WITH MR. MORIAKI.

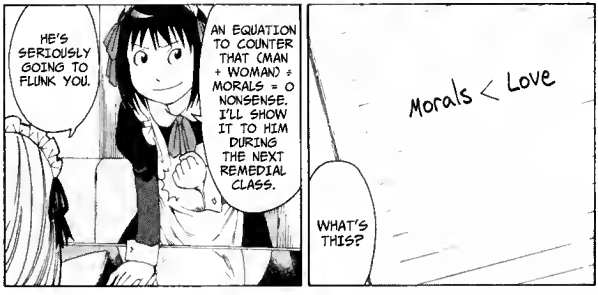

I WANNA KNOW! BUT I'M SCARED TO KNOW! MY INNOCENT HEART IS OVER-WHELMED!
WH-WHAT DID IT SAY?!
ドッキドッキ
THUMP
THUMP
THE NEXT DAY, SHE RECEIVED HIS REPLY.
ONE DAY, SHE DECIDED TO WRITE HER FEELINGS IN A LETTER THAT SHE DELIVERED TO MR. MORIAKI.

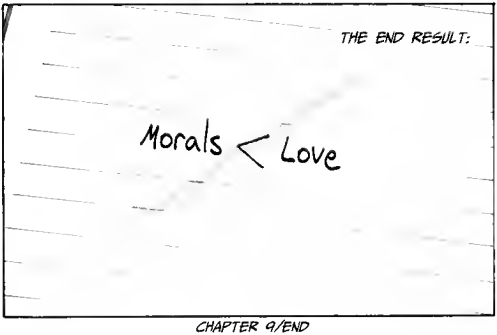
(MAN + WOMAN) ÷ MORALS = 0
THERE WAS ONLY ONE LINE. AN EQUATION WHICH STATED THAT A TEACHER AND STUDENT COULD NEVER FALL IN LOVE BECAUSE OF MORAL OBLIGATIONS.
GYAH


IN THIS AGE OF UNPRINCIPLED TEACHERS, MR. MORIAKI IS A MODEL FOR ALL OF US—
HE RESPONDED—
THE GIRL WAS SO UPSET THAT SHE MADE A HUGE FUSS THAT DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE PRINCIPAL.
JUST LIKE YOU, RIGHT?
WHY?!
PAT
ポン


THAT TELLS YOU HOW STUBBORN HE IS. YOU NEED TO STUDY, OR HE'S REALLY GOING TO FLUNK YOU.
I'M NOT WELL!!
BANG
ドン
ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.
THEY SAY THAT THE LETTER IS STILL ON THE WALL IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

MY TWO ENEMIES ARE VERY ALIKE.
THEY'RE ALIKE.
VROOM...
HANSIN
Tigers
キュイ
REVVV
I'M STARTING TO FEEL THAT THEY EVEN LOOK ALIKE.
THEY ALWAYS TRY TO DISTRACT ME BY BRINGING UP TOPICS THAT AREN'T RELATED TO MATH...
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA...
IMPOSSIBLE. I DON'T BELIEVE IN THE OCCULT OR ANY OF THAT SCIENCE FICTION NONSENSE... HA HA, WHAT WAS I THINKING?
NO...
ぞくっ
SHINE?!
DID A GROWN-UP ARASHIYAMA HOTORI TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO BECOME MY TEACHER...?!


HE'S SERIOUSLY GOING TO FLUNK YOU.
AN EQUATION TO COUNTER THAT CMAN + WOMAN ≠ MORALS = 0 NONSENSE. I'LL SHOW IT TO HIM DURING THE NEXT REMEDIAL CLASS.
Morals < Love
WHAT'S THIS?

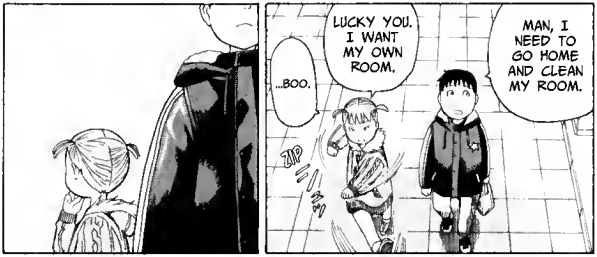


CHAPTER 9/END

CHAPTER 10
KAMABOKO BOUNCE

BAG: SANADA'S FRESH FISH

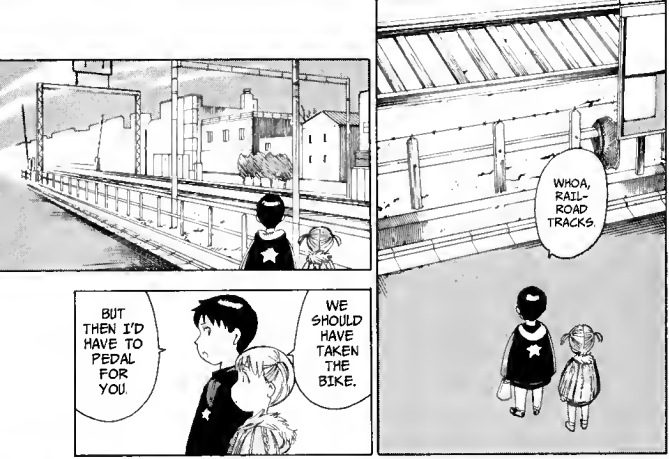
...WHAT'S YOUR BIG SIS UP TO?
BY THE WAY, KIDS...
WHAT'S ARASHI-YAMA...
SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO DO THE SHOPPING—
SHE WAS CLEANING HER ROOM.
I CAN DEFI-NITELY SEE THAT HAPPEN-ING...
I SEE.
BUT ONCE SHE STARTED MOVING EVERYTHING AROUND, SHE COULDN'T GET OUT OF HER ROOM...



SIGN: MARUKO SHOPPING DISTRICT

HUH? THERE'S SMOKE.
町商店街
IT'S PRETTY CLOSE. NEAR THE SHOUWA APART-MENTS?
IS THERE A FIRE?
...LET'S GO SEE.

.....
IS THERE A FIRE?
LOOKS LIKE IT'S FARTHER AWAY.
I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THIS AREA.
LET'S JUST RUN STRAIGHT TOWARDS THE SMOKE.
'KAY!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO? AH!

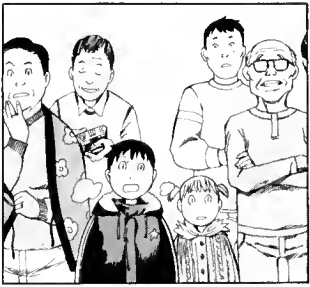

WHOA, RAIL-ROAD TRACKS.
WE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN THE BIKE.
BUT THEN I'D HAVE TO PEDAL FOR YOU.

THAT'S 'CAUSE I DON'T HAVE A BIKE.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO RIDE ONE ANYWAY.
AND YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE TWO PEOPLE ON ONE BIKE.
TRUE ACTION

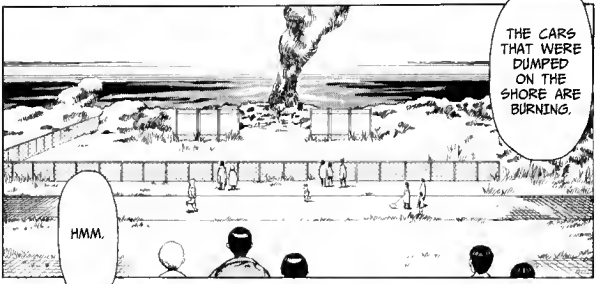
I THINK WE'RE GETTING CLOSER TO THE SMOKE.
IS THE SMOKE MOVING AWAY FROM US?

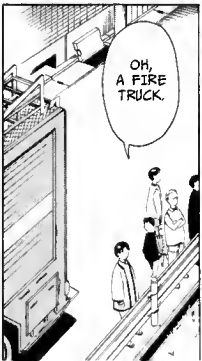
ピョーン
HOP
CAN YOU GET DOWN, YUKIKO?
RATTLE
RATTLE
ドス
THUD
OW!
LEAP
WHOA! STUPID!!
.....

OH, THERE'S A COUPLE MAKING OUT.
DAMN...
AHA-HAHA.
STUPID! SHE'S MY SISTER!
LET GO OF ME!
OW.
POP
GERO-NIMO!!
WHOA!
JUMP DOWN BY YOURSELF NEXT TIME.
TOUCH FACTION



:CHIT-CHAT-TER:
:CHAT-TER:


THE CARS THAT WERE DUMPED ON THE SHORE ARE BURNING.
HMM.


OH, A FIRE TRUCK.

AWW...

THAT'S BORING.
...YEAH.

OOH.
OOH—
LOOK, BRO.
BOING. BOING.
THE HOSE IS REALLY LONG.
AHA-HA.
THERE'S A HOLE HERE.
THAT'S FUNNY.
AH!

NOW, DON'T INTERFERE WITH OUR WORK.
PLUCK
ひょい
AH!
GRUNT
TRY IT, BRO!

...I'M HUNGRY.
WHO CARES? HE WASN'T MAD.
YOU ALMOST GOT US IN TROUBLE.

WHAAAAT—? MY LEGS ARE TOO TIRED TO WALK.
YEAH. WE NEED TO GET HOME.

MOM USUALLY CUTS ITS UP, SO WE'VE NEVER GOTTEN TO TRY THIS.
WHAAT—? KAMABO-KO—?
WE HAVE THIS KAMABOKO. LET'S EAT SOME.
I KNOW.
WOW! I WANNA TRY!
:CHOMP:
:CHEW:
:SWAL-LOW:
:NIB-BLE:
LET'S CALL THIS THE BOARD GOBBLE.
:MUNCH:
:NIBBLE:

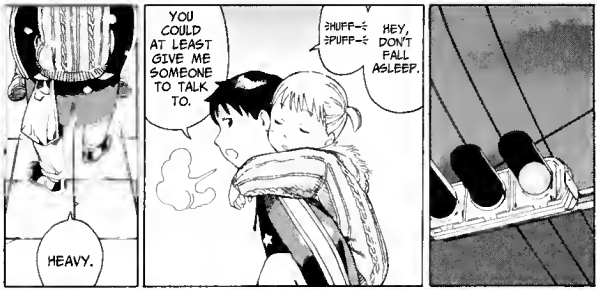
WE'LL PROBABLY GET IN TROUBLE, BUT LET'S ASK DAD TO COME PICK US UP.
UH-HUH.
10 YEN.
HOW MUCH CHANGE DID WE GET FROM THE FISH PLACE?
SO WE HAVE A TWO-IN-THREE CHANCE OF THE RIGHT PERSON PICKING UP.
BOOP— BEEP
ポチ ピポチ
MOM, DAD, AND SIS ARE ALL HOME RIGHT NOW...
RING— RINGING
プルルルルルルルルルル
カチャ CLICK
WE ONLY HAVE 10 YEN. THIS IS OUR LAST LIFE.
YUKI-KO, PRAY WITH ME.
POLICE ACTION
PLEASE DON'T LET SIS PICK UP!

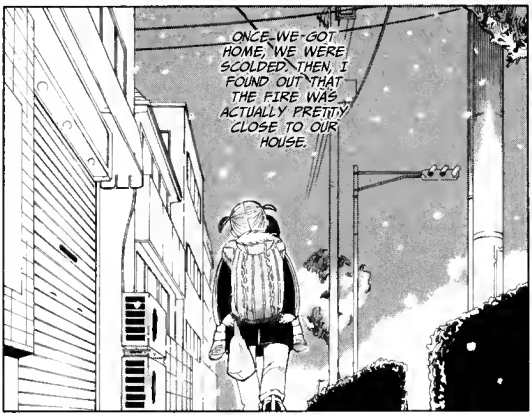
IT'S SIS!
POLICE ACTION

NO, THE FIRE'S NOT IMPORTANT NOW... UH.
HUH?
UH-HUH, WE BOUGHT EVERYTHING... BUT THERE WAS THIS FIRE THAT WAS KIND OF FAR AWAY.
UH, SORRY.

I SAID TO FORGET ABOUT THE FIRE!!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME, SO PUT DAD ON!! WE NEED HIM TO COME PICK US UP...
FORGET ABOUT THE FIRE!
SO RIGHT NOW, WE'RE IN A PLACE CALLED KAMATA... HUH?

...WE'RE FINISHED.
BOOP...
BOOP...
CLICK...





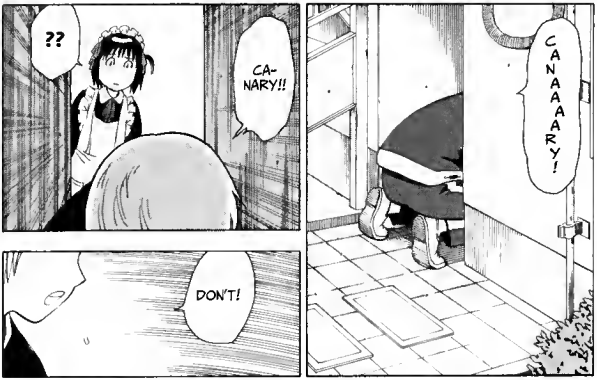
CHAPTER 10/END

CHAPTER II
CAT BOY

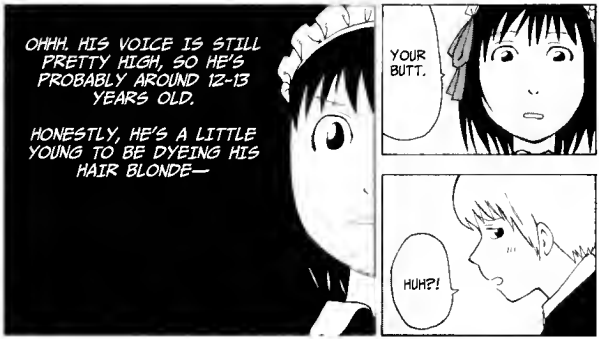
SKETCHBOOK: CARR-ION

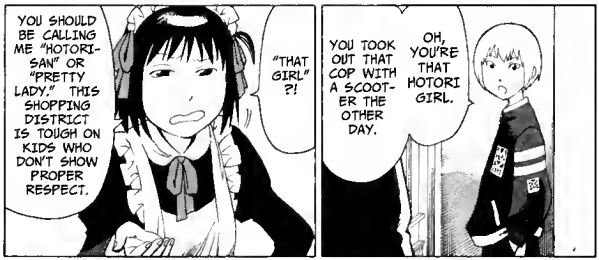
LOOK! IF YOU START TO FORGET, USE THIS TO RE-MEMBER!
たま人
OKAY?!
YOU PREVI-OUSLY SCREWED UP A TWO-ITEM SHOPPING LIST.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE DOING THIS.

THEY NEED TO STOP MAKING FUN OF ME!! CARROTS AND ONIONS, RIIIGHT?! I'M NOT GONNA SCREW THAT UP!!
I'M SO PISSSS-SSSSSS-SSED—
ジョボボボ
WHAT?!
CAR-ROTS AND POTA-TOES?
アナエスパゲティHA
HUH...?
CARR-ION...
WHICHEVER ONE MATCHES THAT...
THEY SPENT SO MUCH TIME DRILLING ME THAT I'M STARTING TO QUESTION MYSELF.
?


??
CA-NARY!!
CANAAAARY!
DON'T!

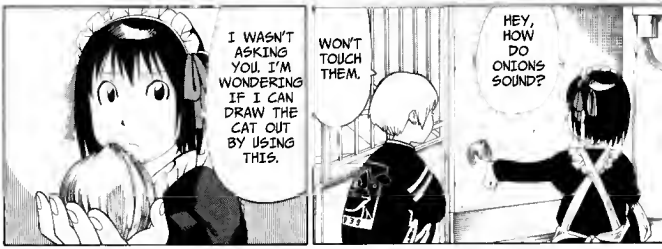
...FROM BETWEEN THE WALLS.
WOW, A CUTE BOY POPPED OUT...
OH?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?


OHHH. HIS VOICE IS STILL PRETTY HIGH, SO HE'S PROBABLY AROUND 12-13 YEARS OLD.
HONESTLY, HE'S A LITTLE YOUNG TO BE DYEING HIS HAIR BLONDE—
YOUR BUTT.
HUH?!

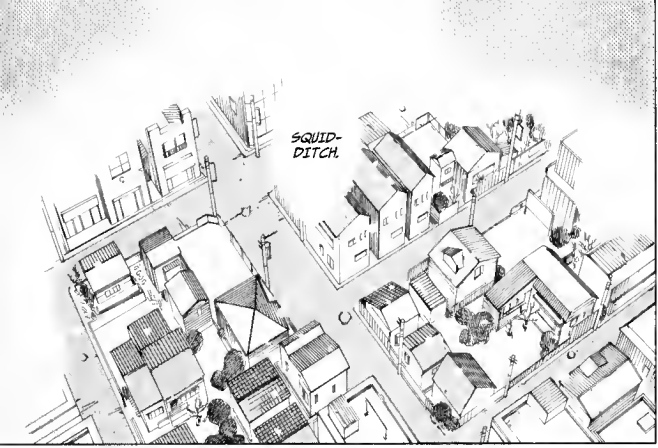

YOU SHOULD BE CALLING ME "HOTORI-SAN" OR "PRETTY LADY." THIS SHOPPING DISTRICT IS TOUGH ON KIDS WHO DON'T SHOW PROPER RESPECT.
"THAT GIRL"?!
OH, YOU'RE THAT HOTORI GIRL.
YOU TOOK OUT THAT COP WITH A SCOOTER THE OTHER DAY.

AND I CAN'T SQUEEZE IN THERE BECAUSE OF THE AIR CONDITIONERS.
MY CAT WON'T COME OUT.
TAKE A LOOK.
RITUAL?
SO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? UP TO SOME KIND OF FUNNY BUSINESS?

OH... SO CANARY IS THE NAME OF YOUR CAT.
...WHY DID YOU NAME IT CANARY—
AH, LIKE A CAT THAT SWALLOWED A CANARY. CLEVER.
CLAP
...THANKS.


HEY, HOW DO ONIONS SOUND?
WON'T TOUCH THEM.
I WASN'T ASKING YOU. I'M WONDERING IF I CAN DRAW THE CAT OUT BY USING THIS.

AND YOU'RE ACTUALLY NOT SUPPOSED TO FEED ONIONS TO CATS.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, DON'T THEY STOP MOVING IF YOU FEED THEM ONIONS?
LIKE I SAID, CATS WON'T TOUCH ONIONS.
IF YOU FEED THEM SQUID.
SQUID-DITCH.


SQUID-DITCH.

I-I'M SORRY. I DON'T KNOW WHY I SAID THAT...
SO LAME THAT IT'S SNOWING NOW!!
JUST LEAVE ALREADY! THAT WAS LAME!!

CANARY IS A GOOD CAT.
THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY.
YOU KNOW HOW CAPRICIOUS CATS ARE?
SHOULDN'T YOU GO INSIDE? IT'S GETTING COLD. I'M SURE YOUR CAT WILL COME OUT SOONER OR LATER.

YOU'RE A LOT GENTLER THAN YOU LOOK.

AND IT'LL MEAN MORE WORK FOR ME IF THE CAT CATCHES A COLD.

;CHO—;
キュー
SQUEEZE
GRUNT!
;CHOKE—;

WHA— WHAT...

WHAT WAS THAT FOR, FOOL?!
SMACK

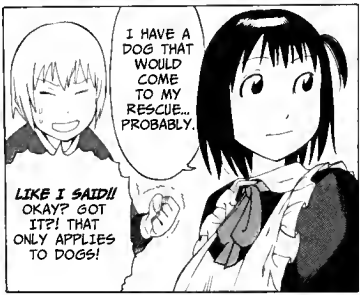
WELL, I GUESS WE'LL NEED TO WORK OUT AN ACTUAL STRATEGY.
COULD YOU JUST LEAVE...
PLOP

テン
TAP

ヨシ
OO
WHOOSH

Y-YOU HIT ME?!
BECAUSE YOU WERE CHOKING ME!
WHY WERE YOU CHOKING ME?!

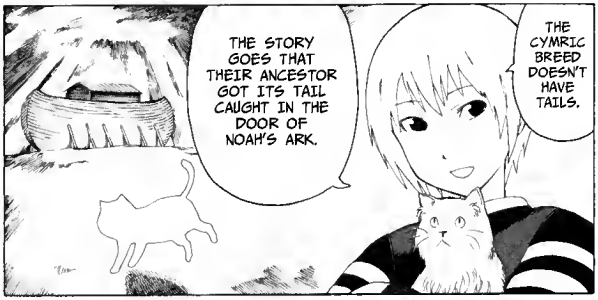
WELL, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT RUN OUT IF ITS OWNER WAS BEING ATTACKED.
IT'S NOT A DOG.

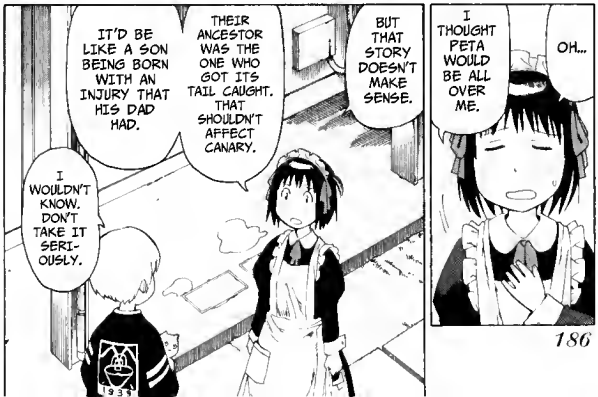

I HAVE A DOG THAT WOULD COME TO MY RESCUE... PROBABLY.
LIKE I SAID!! OKAY? GOT IT?! THAT ONLY APPLIES TO DOGS!

MEOW
MEOW
MEOW
TAP
IT'S OUT!
SEE? THE ONION DID THE TRICK—
WHOA, HOTORI!
CATCH IT!
OKAY. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!!
CAP-TURED!!
SMOTHER
I CALL THIS THE MAID'S CAGE.
MEOW?!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE TITLE OF A PORNO.
YOU NAUGHTY BRAT.

ISN'T THAT NICE, CANARY?
JUST PER...
DRAIN
#!
135
IS THERE A TAIL AROUND HERE?!
NO WAY?! WAS IT ME? I STEPPED ON IT?!
オロ
オロ
FLUSTERED

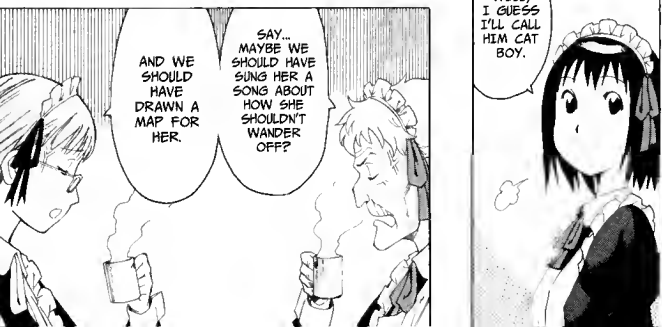
IT DOESN'T HAVE A TAIL
IT WASN'T ME! WELL, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ME, BUT IT WAS JUST AN ACCI-DENT...!!
ER... AH!
HEH, ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A TAIL?
JUMP


THE STORY GOES THAT THEIR ANCESTOR GOT ITS TAIL CAUGHT IN THE DOOR OF NOAH'S ARK.
THE CYMRIC BREED DOESN'T HAVE TAILS.


IT'D BE LIKE A SON BEING BORN WITH AN INJURY THAT HIS DAD HAD.
THEIR ANCESTOR WAS THE ONE WHO GOT ITS TAIL CAUGHT. THAT SHOULDN'T AFFECT CANARY.
BUT THAT STORY DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
I WOULDN'T KNOW. DON'T TAKE IT SERI-OUSLY.
I THOUGHT PETA WOULD BE ALL OVER ME.
OH...

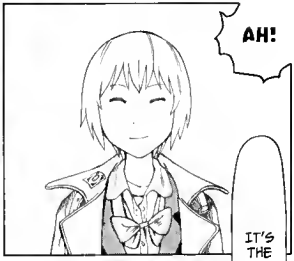
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU SHOULD TELL ME YOUR NAME—
EVER THE SNOTTY BRAT.
YOU GUESS, HUH?
WELL, THANKS, I GUESS.

HUH?

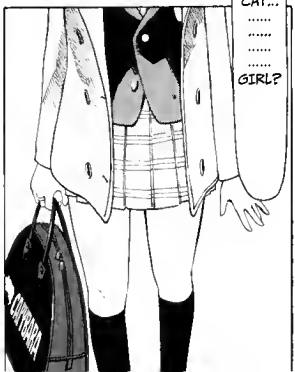

AND WE SHOULD HAVE DRAWN A MAP FOR HER.
SAY... MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE SUNG HER A SONG ABOUT HOW SHE SHOULDN'T WANDER OFF?
WELL, I GUESS I'LL CALL HIM CAT BOY.

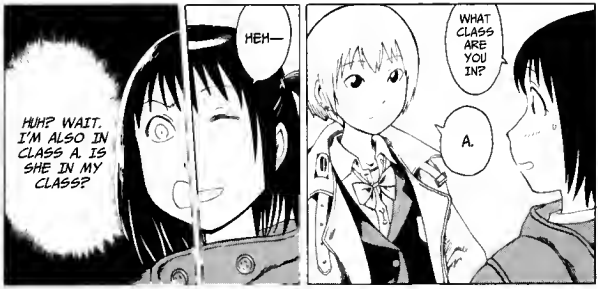
HO-TORI!
YAWN!

.....
HA HA.


AH!

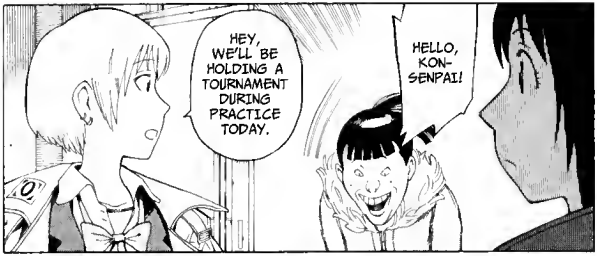
S-SORRY. I THOUGHT YOU WERE A YOUNGER BOY... THAT EXPLAINS A LOT...
AND WE GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL?
I KNEW WHO YOU WERE.

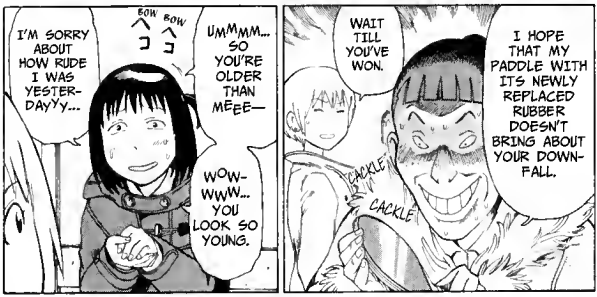

IT'S THE CAT... .... GIRL?


HEH—
HUH? WAIT. I'M ALSO IN CLASS A. IS SHE IN MY CLASS?
WHAT CLASS ARE YOU IN?
A.

WHOA, UH-OH.
I KNEW THIS DAY WOULD COME...
I'VE FINALLY MET A GHOST.
NO, SHE'S NOT.
I CAN RECOGNIZE MY CLASSMATES!

GLANCE
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, SHE KIND OF JUST DISAPPEARED YESTERDAY, AND JUST NOW, I LOOKED UP AND THERE SHE WAS. I'VE BEEN POSSESSED.




I HOPE THAT MY PADDLE WITH ITS NEWLY REPLACED RUBBER DOESN'T BRING ABOUT YOUR DOWN-FALL.
WAIT TILL YOU'VE WON.
CACKLE
CACKLE
UMMMM... SO YOU'RE OLDER THAN MEEE—
BOW
BOW
WOW-WWW... YOU LOOK SO YOUNG.
I'M SORRY ABOUT HOW RUDE I WAS YESTER-DAYYY...

CHAPTER 11/END

AFTERWORD

THIS IS A STORY ABOUT WHEN I FIRST MOVED TO THE SHITAMACHI AREA OF TOKYO.

WHEN I LEFT MY APARTMENT, THE OWNER OF THE NEARBY GROCERY STAND SMILED AND SAID HELLO. THE PEOPLE IN THE STREETS WOULD GREET ONE ANOTHER AS THEY PASSED EACH OTHER BY. THE CLERKS AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE WERE ALWAYS CHATTING WITH YOU.
ONCE, WHEN A GROUP OF KIDS RAN BY, ONE OF THEM TRIPPED AND FELL. A COMPLETE STRANGER HELPED THE KID UP AND PATTED HIM ON THE HEAD...
THE CITY OF TOKYO HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS THE CITY WITHOUT COMMUNICATION, BUT I FOUND TOKYO TO BE A VERY WARM CITY.
I GREW UP IN A SMALL TOWN, SO I WAS SCARED WHEN I FIRST CAME TO TOKYO, BUT I MUST SAY THAT I LOVE THE PLACE. AFTER SIX MONTHS, I WAS ON SPEAKING TERMS WITH ALL OF THE PEOPLE IN THE SHOPPING DISTRICT. THAT WAS WHEN I DECIDED TO WRITE A MANGA SET IN A SHOPPING DISTRICT THAT WOULD SERVE AS A TEXTBOOK ON COMMUNICATION.
THAT WAS THREE YEARS AGO.
I'M SURE THAT MANY OF YOU HAVE REALIZED THIS, BUT I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY BEEN TO A MAID CAFE. IN FACT, I HAVE NO PARTICULAR INTEREST IN MAIDS.
AS I LOOK BACK AT THE FIRST VOLUME, THIS WAS PROBABLY A GOOD THING.
BECAUSE THIS MAID CAFE IS ONLY ONE PART OF THE STAGE THAT IS THE SHOPPING DISTRICT, AND THE SHOPPING DISTRICT IS ONLY ONE PART OF THE SETTING THAT IS OUR EVERYDAY LIFE.

SPECIAL THANKS

FIRST EDITOR IKAI MIKITA
SECOND EDITOR ONO MASAHIRO
ASSISTANT TSUNAMINO YUU
HELPER ARI